

# Ofta Asia

September-October 2015  
Php 100



終わりのセラフ  
Seraph of the end

GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE | GAMER ISSUE

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GAMER'S ARENA: FAIRY FENCER F | SWORD ART ONLINE: LOST SONG |  
HYPERDIMENSION NEPTUNA U: ACTION UNLEASHED | KANTAI COLLECTION  
REVIEWS: ROKKA NO YUUSHA | AKAGAMI NO SHIRAYUKI-HIME | GATE:  
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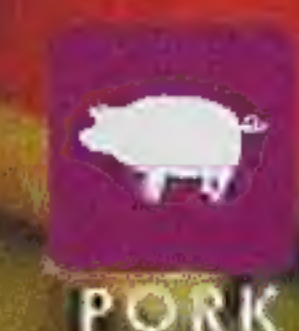
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## CONTRIBUTOR'S QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE GAME THAT YOU HAVE PLAYED RECENTLY?

I've set aside my console games because I've been recently immersed with playing Fate/Grand Order and Kantai Collection. Both games require patience and luck which could make you rage most of the time, but proves to be quite enjoyable once you've invested a bit of time and effort. Not to mention you could boast to everyone once you acquired good results. As to how I encountered these games, I'd say through social media and forums.  
-Mikelle Abubo

Sword Art Online: Hollow Fragment. I wouldn't call it a favorite, but the game is perfect for gamers who likes to level grind before facing stronger enemies and wants to have Kiritto use both Ultimate and Esoteric skills from other weapon classes. I saw a localization trailer for Hollow Fragment during the same year SAO II was airing, and then borrowed the game from a friend just recently.  
-Nathaniel Angeles

I haven't been playing lately but I would love to continue LLSIF. I really like rhythm games in general. I learned about this first through Twitter because my friends usually brag their URs and SRs. I got curious so I tried it. I just really need more time to play it.  
-Dhanliza Cellona

My favorite games as of now are Aura Kingdom and Final Fantasy Type 0. Aura Kingdom (Fantasy Frontier in the Taiwan) is one of the many MMORPG that kind of sums up what I'm looking for so long in many MMO's such as character creation, good environment and a nice gameplay that requires skill and a lot of thinking when it comes to setting up your own gears. I've encountered this game around last year when we are looking for a nice MMO to play. Final Fantasy Type 0 on the other hand is a RPG game where you can play as the students of Class 0 to save the world from a threat. I'm liking it due to its story and its action-like gameplay with challenging features. As a Final Fantasy fan, I learned it through news and waited for a chance to get its Japanese version as I anticipated the game for too long.  
-Aaren Santos

Can we have RO back? \_(:\_「ε:」\_)  
-Heloise Diamante

Persona 4 Golden. No game has really got me that drawn into the narrative before P4G, to the point that I can strongly empathize with the characters and their developments. It also helps that the cast is placed in a very familiar environment and act pretty much like your group of friends in school, making it easy to relate to and even insert yourself into the narrative at times. I actually knew about the game for years already but only got the chance to play it a few months ago. Currently on my second playthrough, and you really have to play it to truly understand why people call it the best JRPG on the PS Vita.  
-John Robert Lim

Grandchase Mobile (GCM). Well...It is Grandchase (favorite game forever). While the graphics are better and more 3d-ish compared to the PC version, the characters aren't complete YET \*crosses fingers\* and the skills are very limited rather than having 4-5 sets like in the old version. You can't rage the keyboard while attacking (too bad that was the fun part :v). It's still GC~I should mention I'm totally into Toukenranbu and F/GO though~ Source: My older brother...and internet shops ~(:w=~)  
-Aira Agacan

Can I just copy what Rhaine said? Ahaha. I truly agree with her for GCM, though I'm not playing it much recently. But if I have to choose another, then osu! I like osu! before so I'm glad to have this game now, my stress reliever~ and I can play my favorite anime theme songs so i like it better ^\_^ oh and also Fly Magpie, glad to have it revived in osu!, thanks to the one who mapped it~ XD  
-Elaine Palaruan

Ninja Heroes because it's a Naruto game. I love all Naruto stuffs~ In this game, you'll have your own ninja village and make your ninjas strong by doing missions, relaxing at the hot bath, etc. There are also shops where you get ninja stuffs and you can also upgrade them~. It's like your the Hokage of your own village. Believe it. It's also similar to the game I'm playing before called Pocket Ninja in Facebook but unfortunately the game has been shut down. I learned about it through Google PlayStore. I always type Naruto at the search box of Google Playstore once a month... and then one day, it appeared in the search results. XD  
-Dianne Gaviño

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Candy







Princess Aira Manalo



Rufino Galgalan III

Pa request naman po na ma feature yung "Dragon Quest VII : Warriors of Eden" manga ni Kamui Fujiwara. Based po yan sa 7th installment ng Dragon Quest Game-Series. Maganda po yan kaya lang di masyadong nakikita kaya pa feature nalang po sa magazine nyo. Otaku Asia Anime!

**-Jim Hawkins**

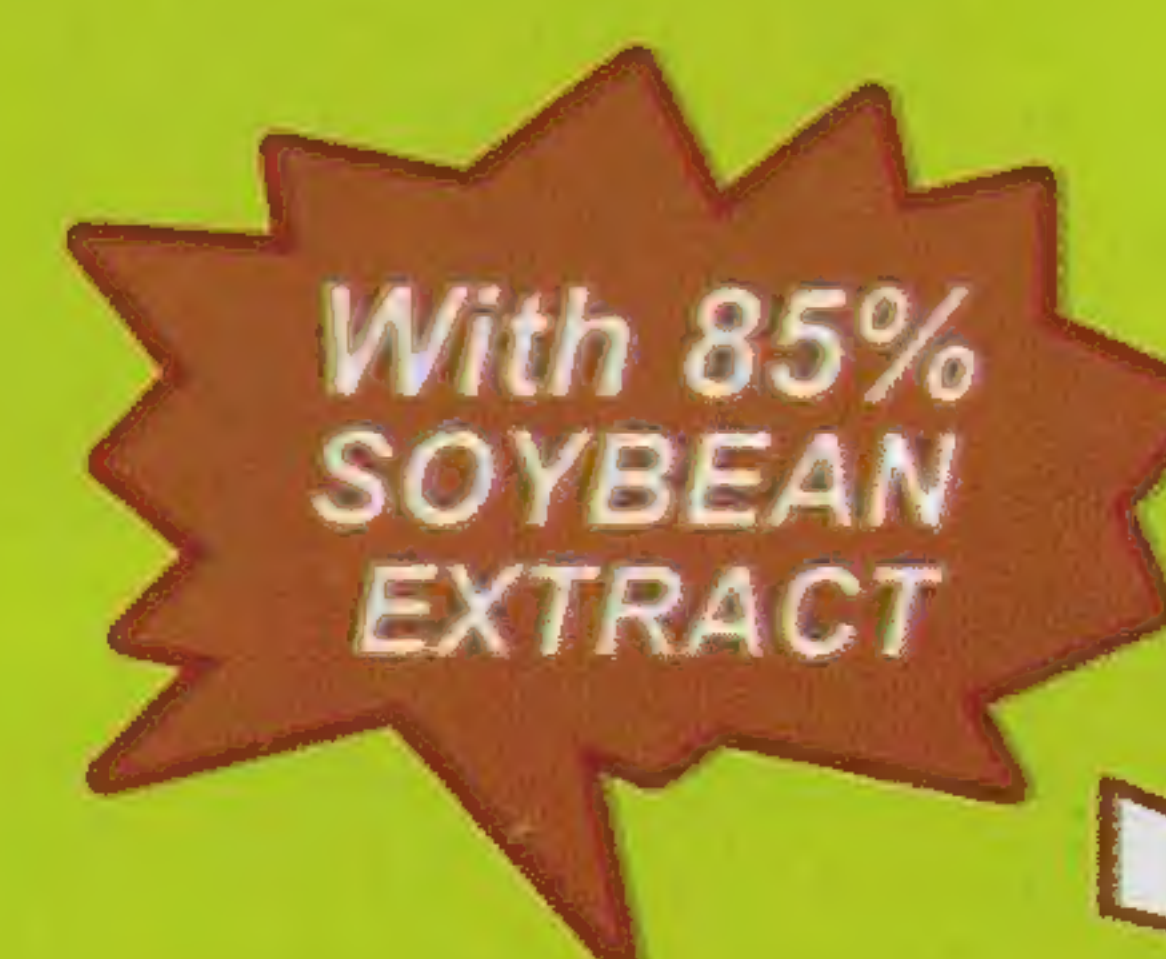
Hello again Otaku Asia staff! Heard there is a new segment in your mag which is "Seiyuu's Mic". Can you feature Hanazawa Kana in your next issue? She is an incredible seiyuu and is behind the voices of some characters I love Thank you for reading this

**-Josh Papauran**



Hello po, first time I saw your magazines I'm amazed because I am a Otaku and I love Anime, For a while a have 7 of your magazines po!! I really like it po! Greet ko rin po yung mga Otakus dito sila NABOR, HANNAH, MARRIANE and in the middle I have my drawing of Isuzu Sento from Amagi Brilliant Park--- Hope you like it!!! God Bless, More Power and more magazines to come

**-Jhan L. Gesulga**



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Ohaiyou minna-san!!!

I just love your mag this month, you finally done it! I hope this fanart of Ran will be featured in the next issue... Anyways, plz continue being awesome as always, and I will always support you all... Gambatte ne! P. S. Plz review DN Angel, Detective Conan and Loki and Kaichou wa Maid- sama. And a shout-out to my cousins in Tiaong, Quezon

-Liz Carandang



Konbanwaaa, Otaku Asia~ I just wanted to say that your magazines are so cool! You guys always tackle on topics, animes and mangas that interest me a lot! Another thing that i just love about your mag is that it involves the Japanese culture and also Japanese-related stuff (like restaurants and cosplayers) here in the country THANK YOU and stay awesome! \*btw, this is a fan art of King (Harlequin) from Nanatsu no Taizai (a must watch anime!)

-Czar Marie

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?  
Fanart to showoff? Otaku Asia would  
love to hear from you!



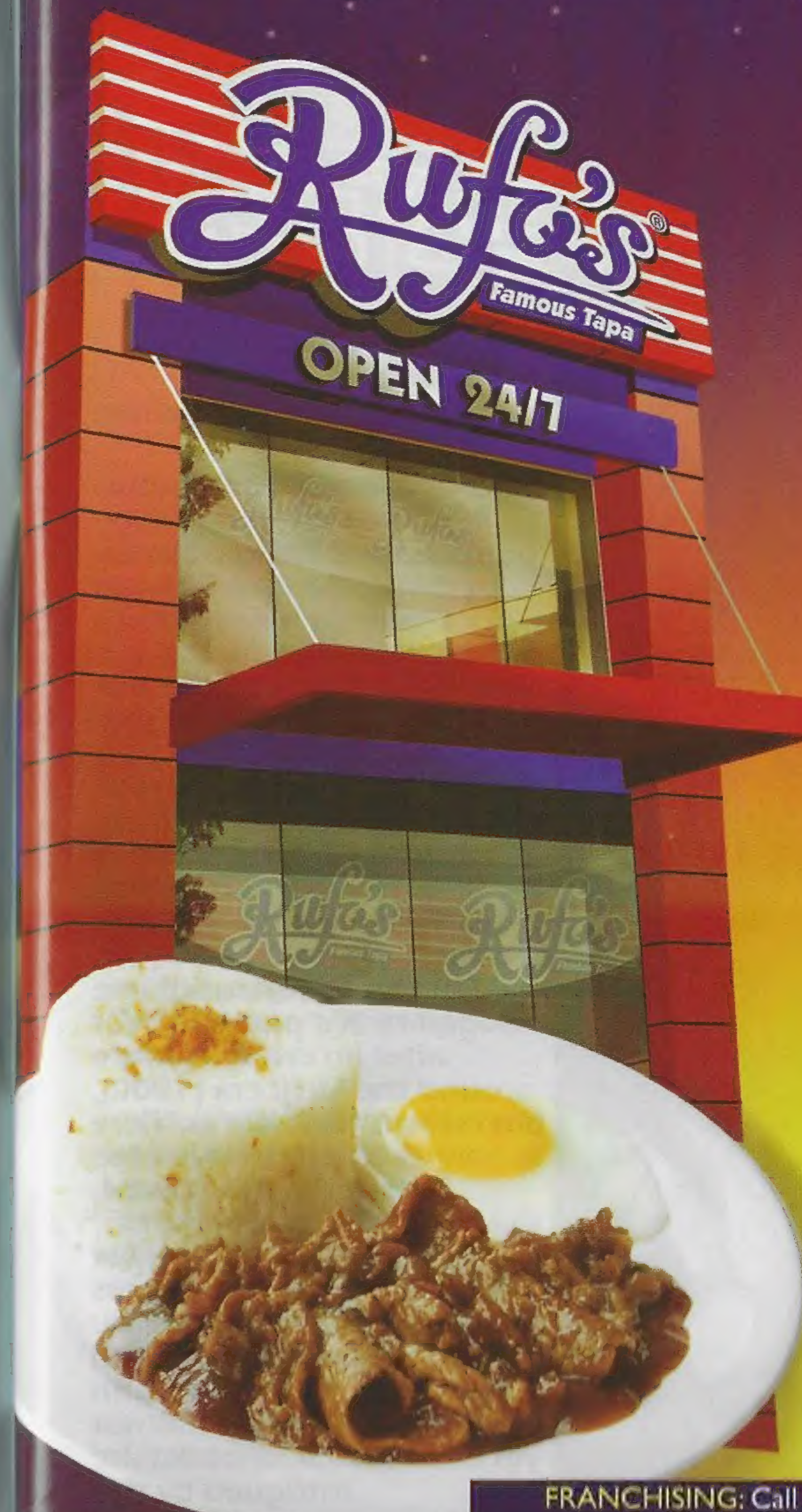
Konnichiwa , Otaku Asia Share ko lang po uli ang digital art ko. Sakura and Sasuke. Salamat po sa pag pu-publish nung drawing ko. Thanks po talaga. Nabighani nanamn ako sa mga contents magazine nyo keep up the good work

-Cychi

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# 天華百剣

by kanddy

Girls are very competitive and with the sudden popularity of Touken Ranbu by DMM, Dengenki G and Kadokawa has created a new franchise that is relatively similar but this time, with girls.

**Tenka Hyakken** or **Abundant Heaven, Hundred Swords**, features famous Japanese swords anthropomorphised as girls because why not? The sword maidens called *Mitsurugi*, are pledged to live peaceful lives after an era of warfare around the Meiji era (1900), but returns to battle as there is an undisclosed foe threatening the peace.

Since June, there have been only three characters revealed: Kogarasumaru (001), Nagamitsu (013) and Yasutsuna (050). Although the form of franchise has not yet been revealed, otaku are intrigued by this development and is waiting for more updates from the website, [tenkahyakken.jp](http://tenkahyakken.jp).

As for production, Humikane Shimada, Coffee Kizoku, Ei'ichi Shimizu and Tomohiro Shimoguchi are among the artists involved.

We look forward to a world of Japanese sword girls after the rave of Japanese sword husbando... erm, boys. I mean boys.

# Sachiko

by kanddy

Speaking of powerful women, let us not forget soulful, traditional music called Enka, a Japanese genre dominated by women. One of which is Kobayashi Sachiko.

If you think that she is a familiar name, well, yes. Because she has loaned her wonderful voice in Pokemon songs, *Pokémon Ondo*, *Fantasy in my Pocket* and *Together With the Wind*. Lately, sang *Monokuma Ondo* for Danganronpa the Animation.

It's not surprising for her to be chosen as the voice lenders for Vocaloid 4. Released July 27, **SACHIKO** is the first Japanese voice in the V4 series. In an interview, singer Sachiko expressed how she thinks that the Vocaloid's voice is somewhat an improvement of her own.

We listened to the demo and some fanmade early buyers, and it sounds like Sachiko!! (well, duh) but we were misled into thinking that it would be a younger version given the official art by Foo\* (碧風羽). It turned out to be very mature and raw. The Vocaloid website mentioned that Sachiko could growl. We'd love to hear her take on more challenging songs!!







OTAKUGOODIES

# Beldandy

Series: Ah! My Goddess  
Product: Pre-painted Figure  
Height: 28.50 cm  
Scale: 1/6

AVAILABLE AT: WWW.E2046.COM



with wedding dress

A goddess duty is to bring happiness around them. If you've known Beldandy and haven't called the Goddess Help line then this is your chance to make you dreams come true like seeing Beldandy in wedding dress!

Beldandy is the goddess who is summoned by her agency when Keiichi accidentally called the Goddess hotline. He can make a single wish to be granted by Beldandy. Since he didn't believe; thinking its only a prank and due to Beldandy's beauty, he wished that Beldandy will stay with him forever. His wish was granted. Since Keiichi is staying in an all-boys dorm, he must find a place where the two of them can stay. They found a place where they can stay and it's a temple. The monk let them stay there indefinitely as long as they keep it clean and organized.

Not only good-looking, Beldandy is also kind and nice to everyone that's why people are more attracted to her. She did wear a wedding dress in the OVA series of Ah! my Goddess and Keiichi is the only one who saw it in person. If you want to see her wearing a wedding dress in person then this figure would be the key to that dream! This could also be added to you collection if you are a fan/merchandise collector of Ah! my goddess and/or Beldandy.

5/5 Sculpting - My favorite part was the dress since the frills was made perfectly and it looks real and it looks natural.

4/5 Paint - it was executed properly and the type of paint used on the dress made it look silky.



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# JUST JAPAN

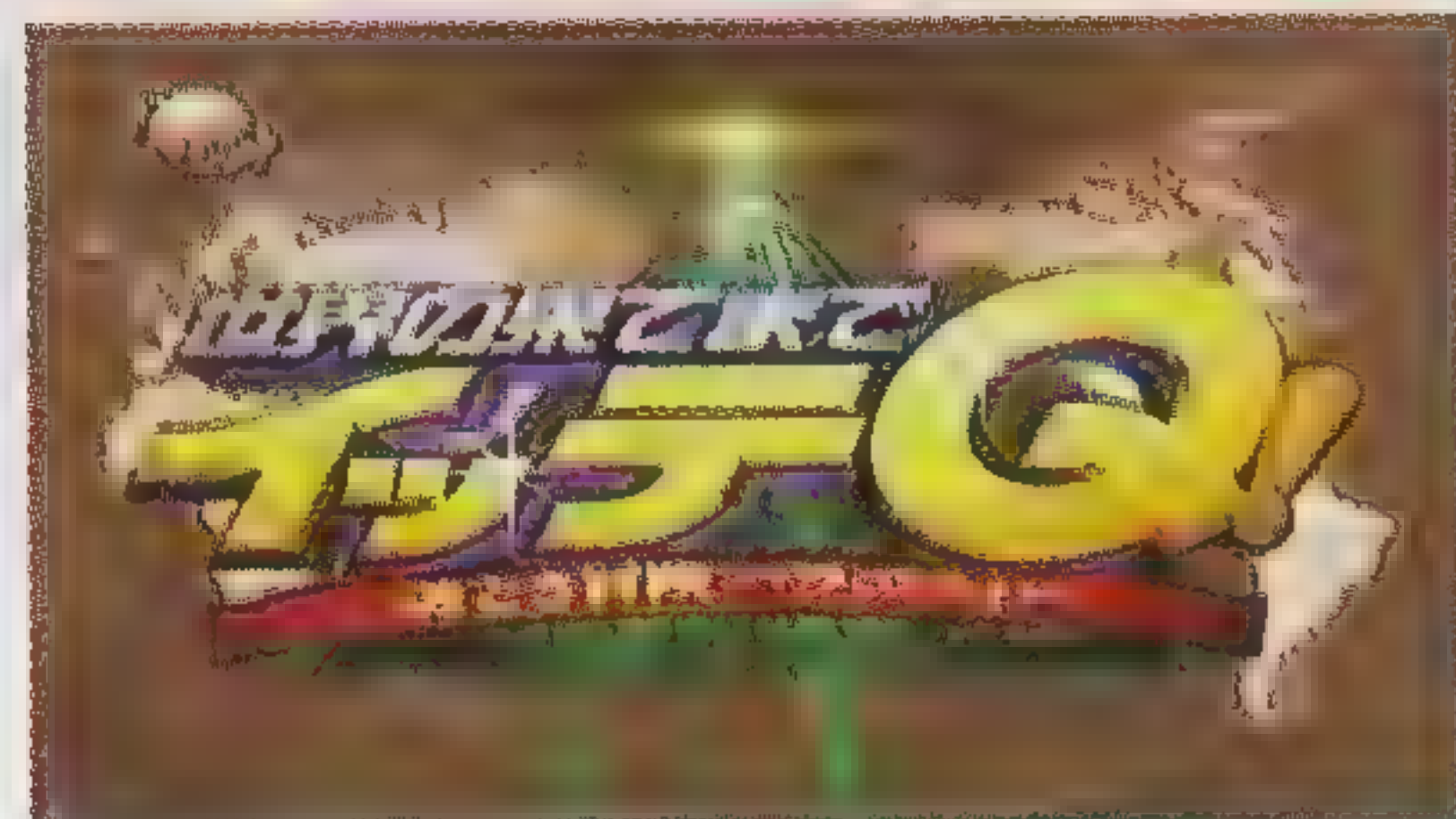
## JAPAN DEFINES FUN

by Ann

When we hear "gaming," we instantly think of video games, but Japan keeps redefining the world of gaming. It's more than the virtual world, though, as there are always the Japanese game shows that defy all others and turn everyone's definition of fun all topsy turvy.

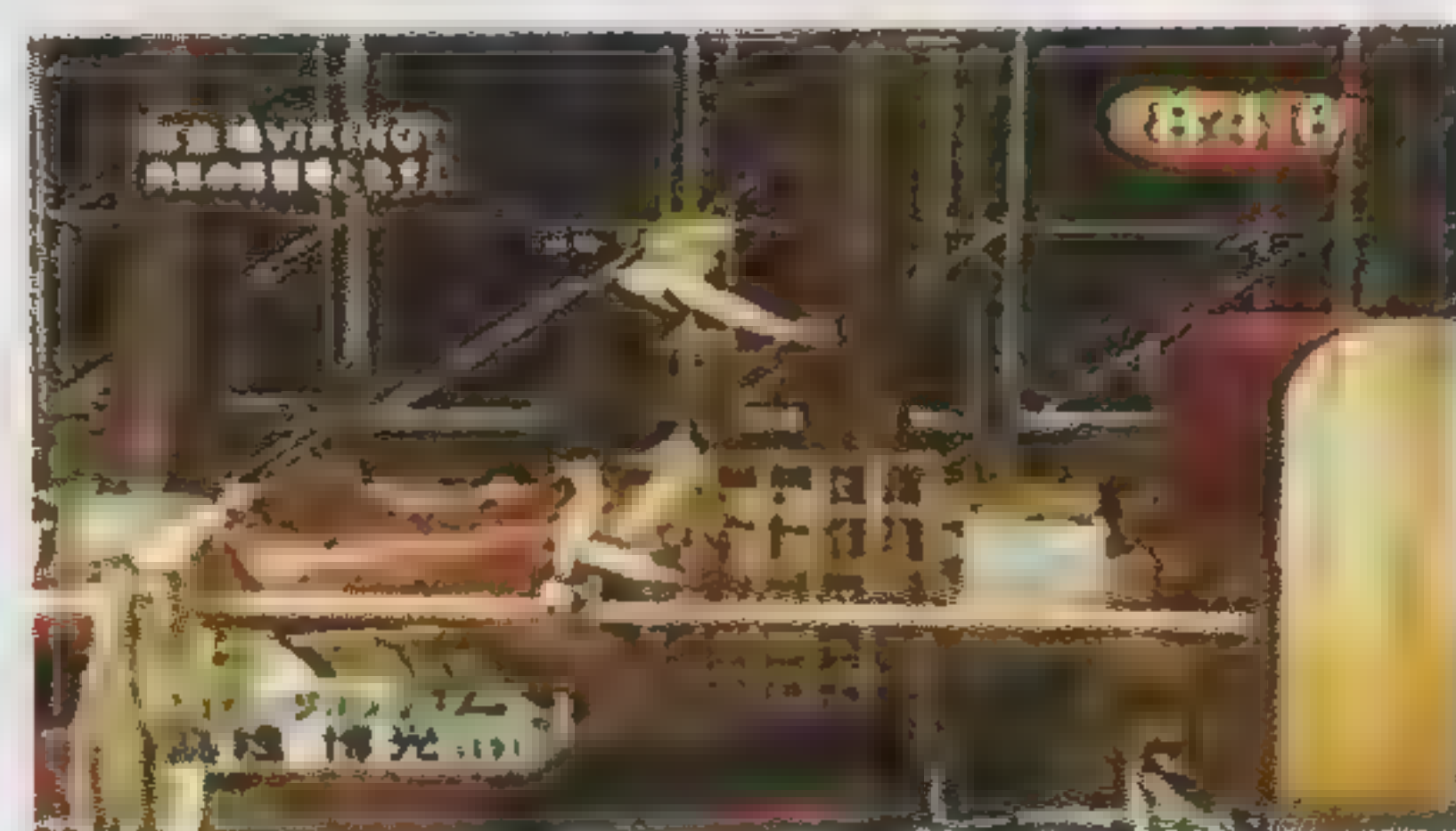
**Japanese game shows** are known worldwide for the unordinary games they make the contestants play. By unordinary, we mean

the Japanese took "variety" in its every sense in incorporating random ideas, sometimes making you just ask, "Why???" See how fantasies of humans serving as bowling balls or struggling to do a human tetris materialize into game shows making the audience roll on the floor as these participants (can also be called big prank victims) face physical challenges and boost and/or lower their self-esteems to give people the entertainment they need.



Sekai No Hatte Madde Itte Q!

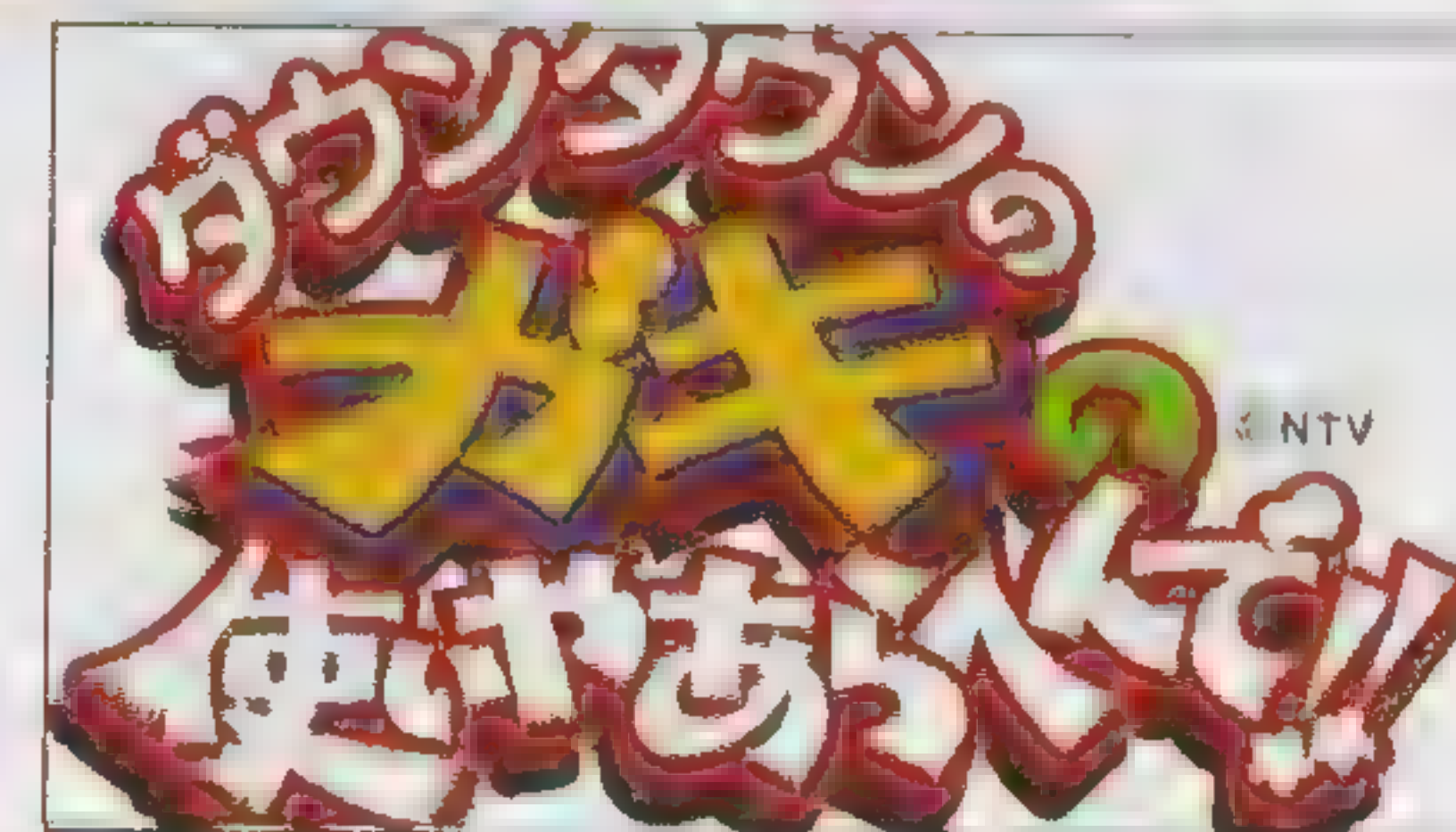
Moreover, these game shows reflect how open-minded the Japanese are, and truly, the games of collecting as many coins as you can is one of them. This, of course, comes with the twist of being able to gather only using a woman's cleavage. Then there's the game where men desperately crawl his way to uncover blocks that hinder the beautiful view of a naked woman. On the other hand, why not let animals join in the fun? Of course, Sekai No Hatte Madde Itte Q! also wanted to let a bear have some fun with a human inside a glass box in "Predator Shield." Clearly, the Japanese don't seem to run out of inspiration!



Viking: The Ultimate Obstacle Course

These game shows will never remain unknown as some of them made their way to the mainstream. One of the most famous Japanese game shows produced is Viking: The Ultimate Obstacle Course, which focuses on obstacle course endurance where contestants need to finish obstacles in four stages, all within specific time limits. It is produced by Fuji TV and Monster9 and was aired in the Philippines. It is even aired in Europe, Taiwan, and Thailand. Similar to the four-stage obstacle courses of Viking is SASUKE or Ninja Warrior produced by Tokyo Broadcasting System (TBS). It has aired in 157 countries but continues to conquer 18 countries.

Moving backward, between 1986 and 1990, TBS built a fortress where over 100 contestants would go through challenges in order to come face to face with the prince in Takeshi's Castle. The show was so popular for the stunts that over 28 countries made their own versions of the show.



Downtown no Gaki no Tsukai ya Arahende!!



Takeshi's Castle

Apart from the games that challenge people for the sake of prizes, another most beloved source of entertainment are punishment games. October 3, 1989 marked the birth of one of the longest-running Japanese variety shows that features just that. The punishment games, also called batsu games, in the show Downtown no Gaki no Tsukai ya Arahende!! varied, including the "No Laughing" in 24 hours to avoid being spanked or getting hit with a dart, the challenge of swimming in winter, being stuck in a haunted hotel, and getting a catapult that hits one's genitals.

All in all, the Japanese game shows are not just giving away money for a few (or maybe more than just few) laughs. They measure human strength, courage, and confidence to take on challenges. Creativity has absolutely burst all over Japan, so who knows what game airs next on the Japanese TV screen!





OTAKUGOODIES

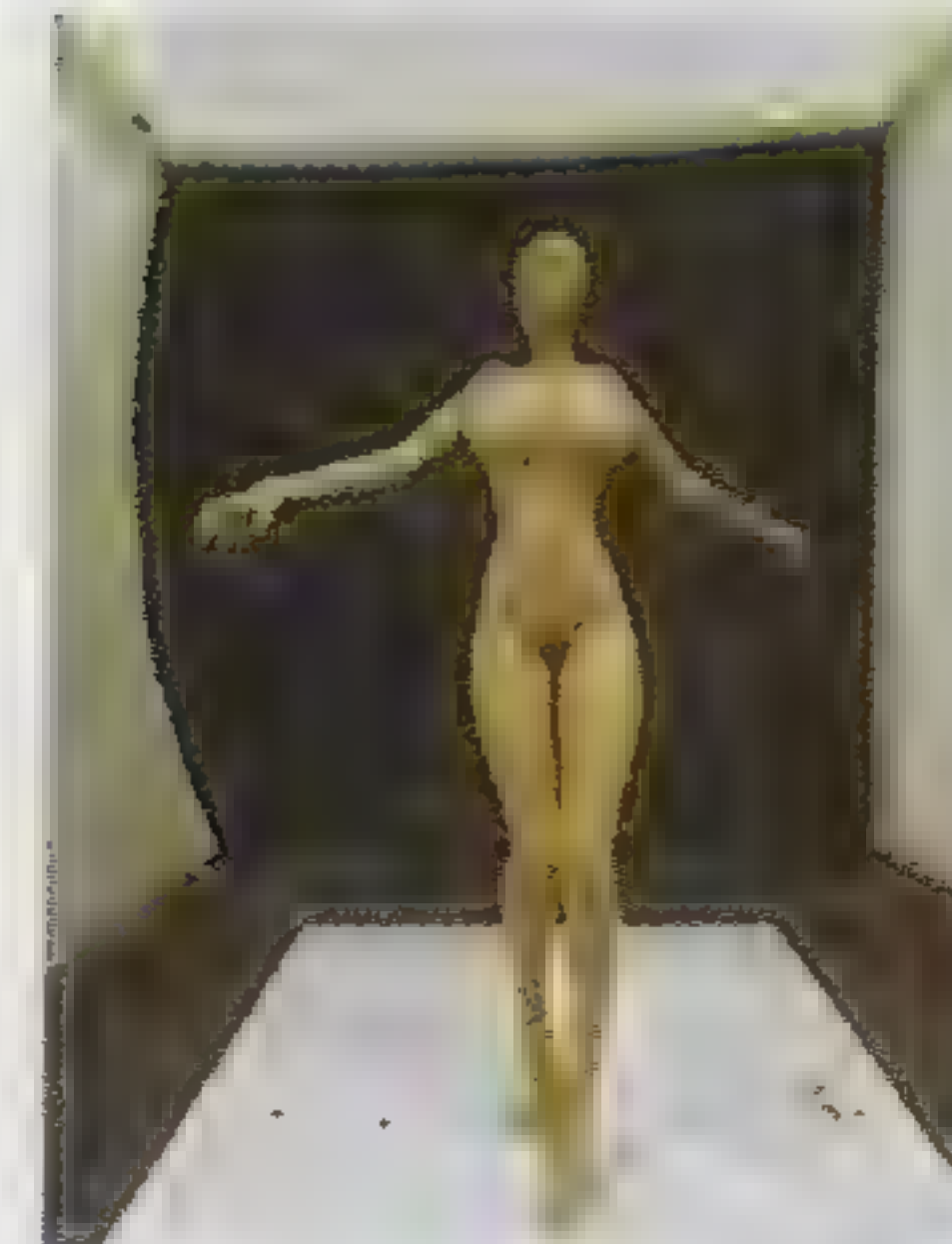
# VALKYRIA REILA

by Kahlua



Series: Valkyria Chronicles 3  
Product: Assembly and Painting Required  
Height: 27.00 cm  
Scale: 1/6  
Price: PHP 2444.78

## Process shots:



For all the fans of Valkyria Chronicles out there, E2046 has released a collectible figure of the beautiful alternate version of Riela Marcellis, Valkyria Riela, for you! This version of Riela Marcellis is the one that can be changed to any unit class, has Valkyria powers, and can only be unlocked through completing all four missions of The Treacherous Valkyria DLG.

**4/5 Sculpting** – There is a separate layer for her body and dress, making the dramatic over-all look of the character not lessened a bit.

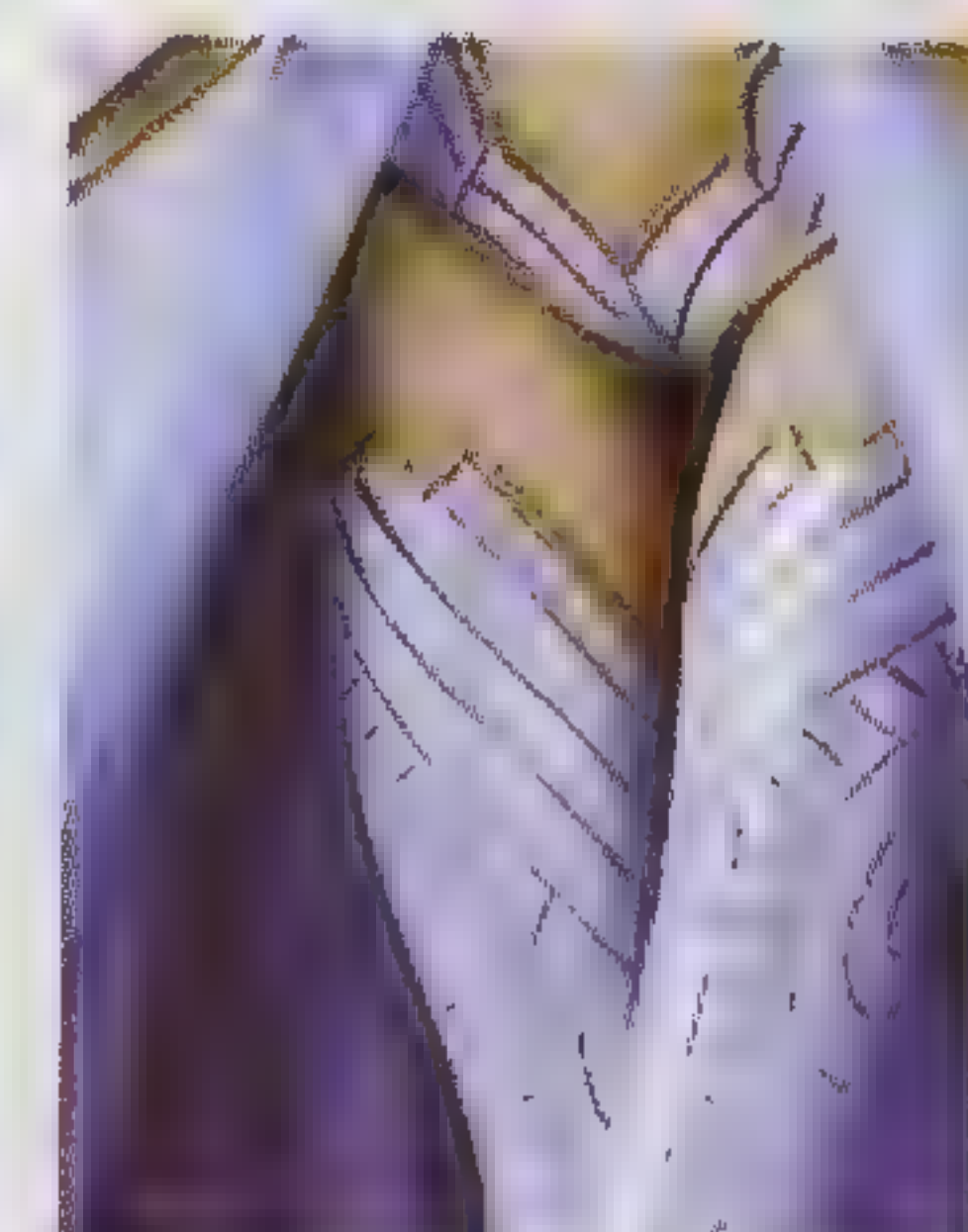
**4/5 Paint** – From her hair down to her accessories, the color matches from that of the game. With the proper compliance of the instructions, one will be able to achieve the look that they want for the figure.

**5/5 Packaging** – It is carried in extra package box and enhanced safety is ensured.

**4/5 Value** – Reasonable price for a perfect collector's item, especially for those who enjoy assembling figures they display on their own.



## Detail shots:







# HOOKED BOOK

by Yani

**Publisher:** Tuttle Publishing

**Format:** Paperback

**Date Published:** 8/5/2014

**Total # of Pages:** 128

Learning the Japanese language is one of the goals most of the otakus. The merchandise they mostly collect are in Japanese Language and they wanted to understand what's written in there. Watching anime and Japanese drama is indeed a great help in understanding the language; it helps them speak and understand some Japanese words but how about understanding and reading texts?

## game gēmu

katakana

ゲーム

hiragana

げいむ

This book also lets you have access to online audio files that will also greatly help you with the proper pronunciation and punctuation and also, this book assures that all things written in the book are really useful in learning the Japanese Language.

This book will be also perfect to those people who plans to visit Japan since every place and signages in there is in Japanese text and most people in there use their native language. Learning about their language is sure challenging but it will surely help you especially if you are a fan of their culture.

## Learning Japanese Hiragana and Katakana

A Workbook for Self-Study

REVISED SECOND EDITION

- Easy step-by-step guide to reading and writing
- Includes audio files and online audio files
- Detailed reference words and phrases for the Japanese language
- Includes a glossary of Japanese words

Kenneth G. Henshall and Tetsuo Takagaki

TUTTLE

Writing Japanese has two versions: the Hiragana and Katakana so it's a bit more challenging to learn so that's why the book "Learning Japanese Hiragana and Katakana" is here to guide and teach you about that. The book was written by Kenneth G. Henshall and Tetsuo Takagaki. You will learn many things in this book. Aside from learning how to read texts in Japanese, you'll also learn how every character is written. Added to that, this book will explain how combination of characters happens when forming a word.

## book Bukku

katakana

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hiragana

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**Ms. Valerie Concepcion**

Siomai King Franchisee / Actress



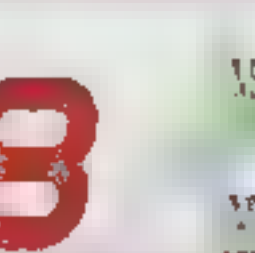
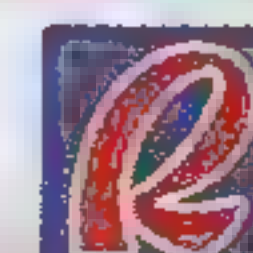
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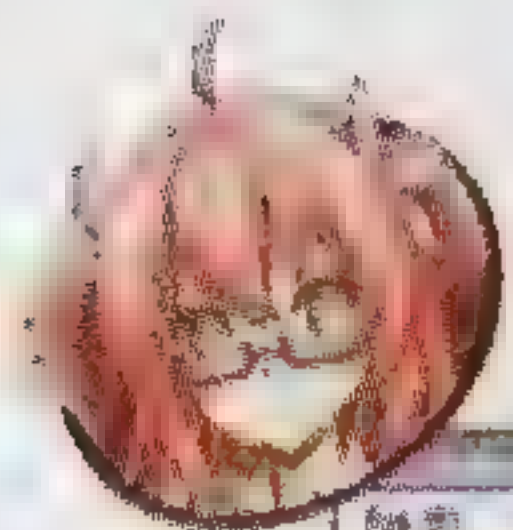
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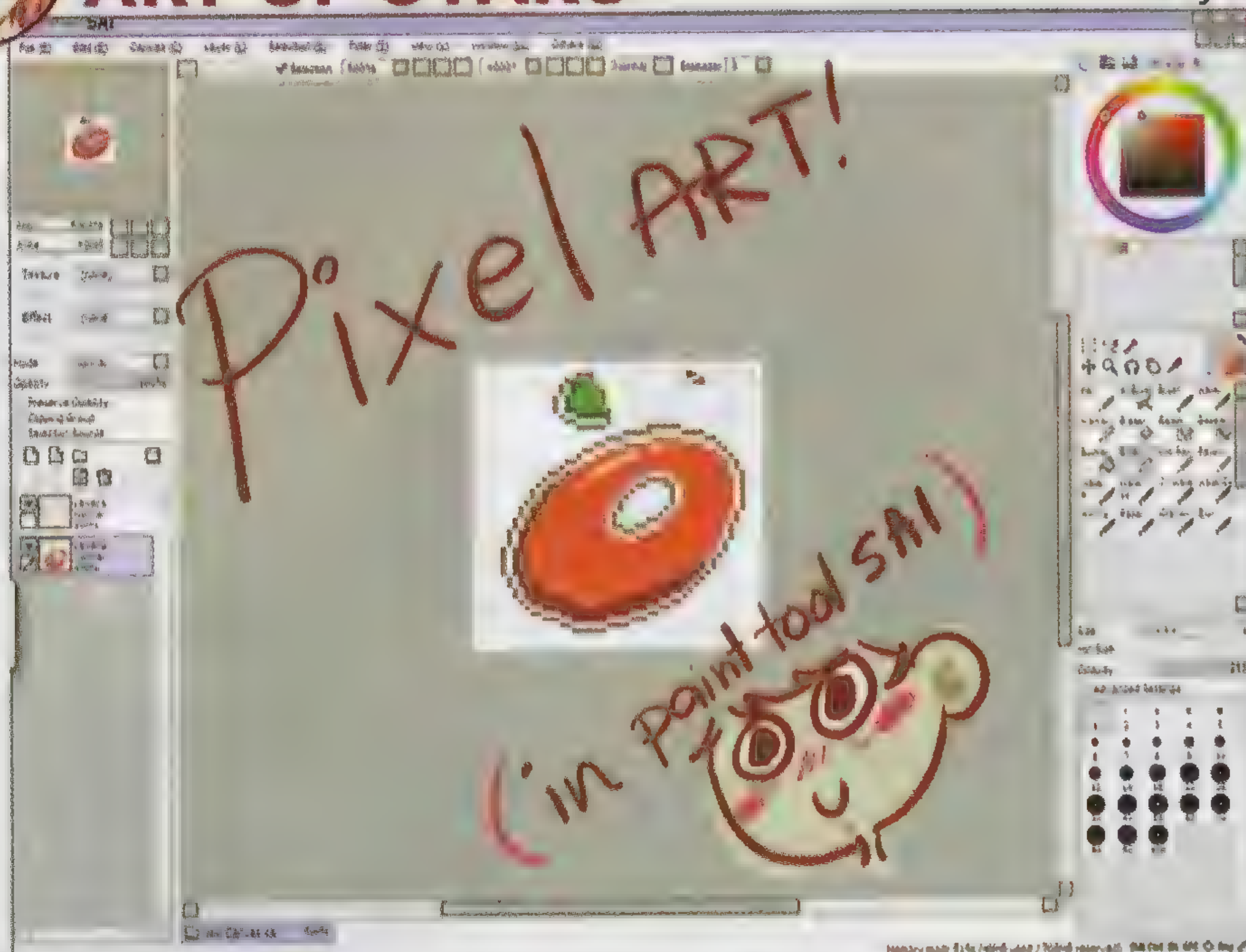






# ART OF OTAKU

tutorial by kanddy



First of all, you might be thinking, why pixel art tutorial?

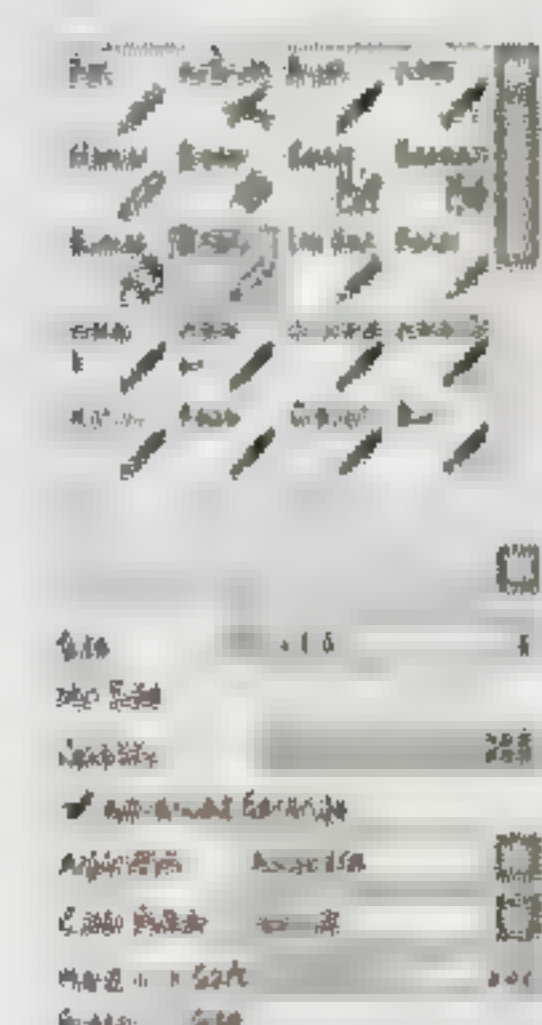
Well, the best games we know today all started with pixels: Pacman, Digimon, Tamagocchi, Snake, Tetris and even Street Fighter.

Next, you'll ask, why in Pain Tool SAI? Well... MS Paint is traditionally used for pixel art but since the age of Photoshop, artists now use layers. In SAI, we can do both without configuring the settings of the whole program (like in PS).

SAI has a brush preset called **BINARY PEN**. We'll start on that.

Create and set a new document. Right now, we are working with only **50 x 50 pixels**. We'll zoom to 1200% and work from there.

So then, when you download and open SAI, there are 20 brushes already loaded and set for you to use. One of them is the BINARY.

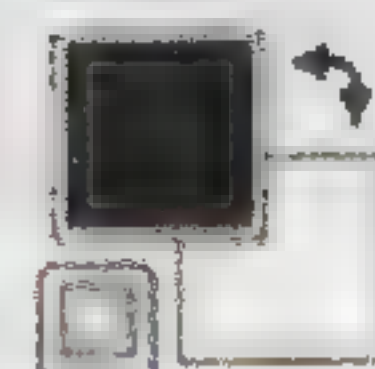


There are two algorithm settings:

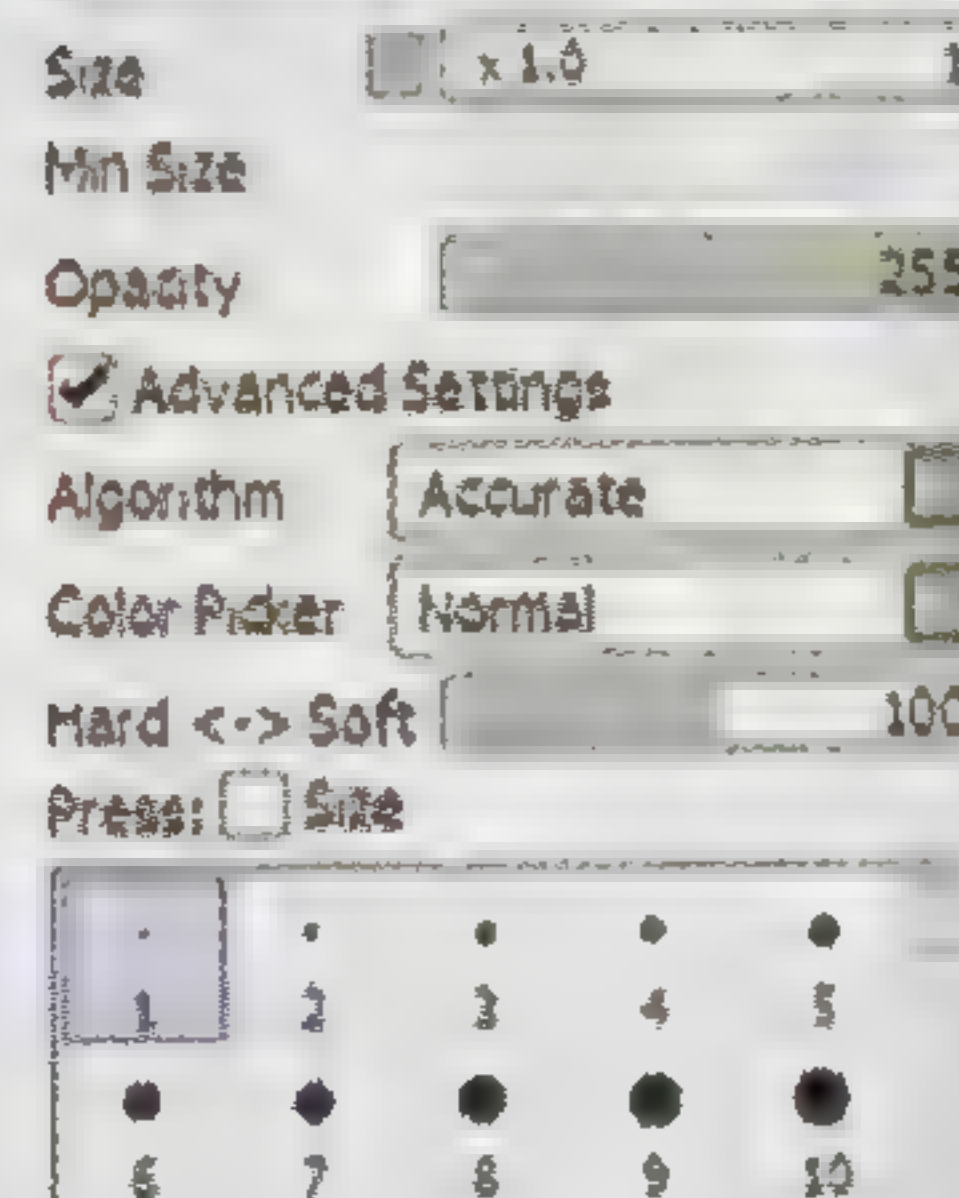
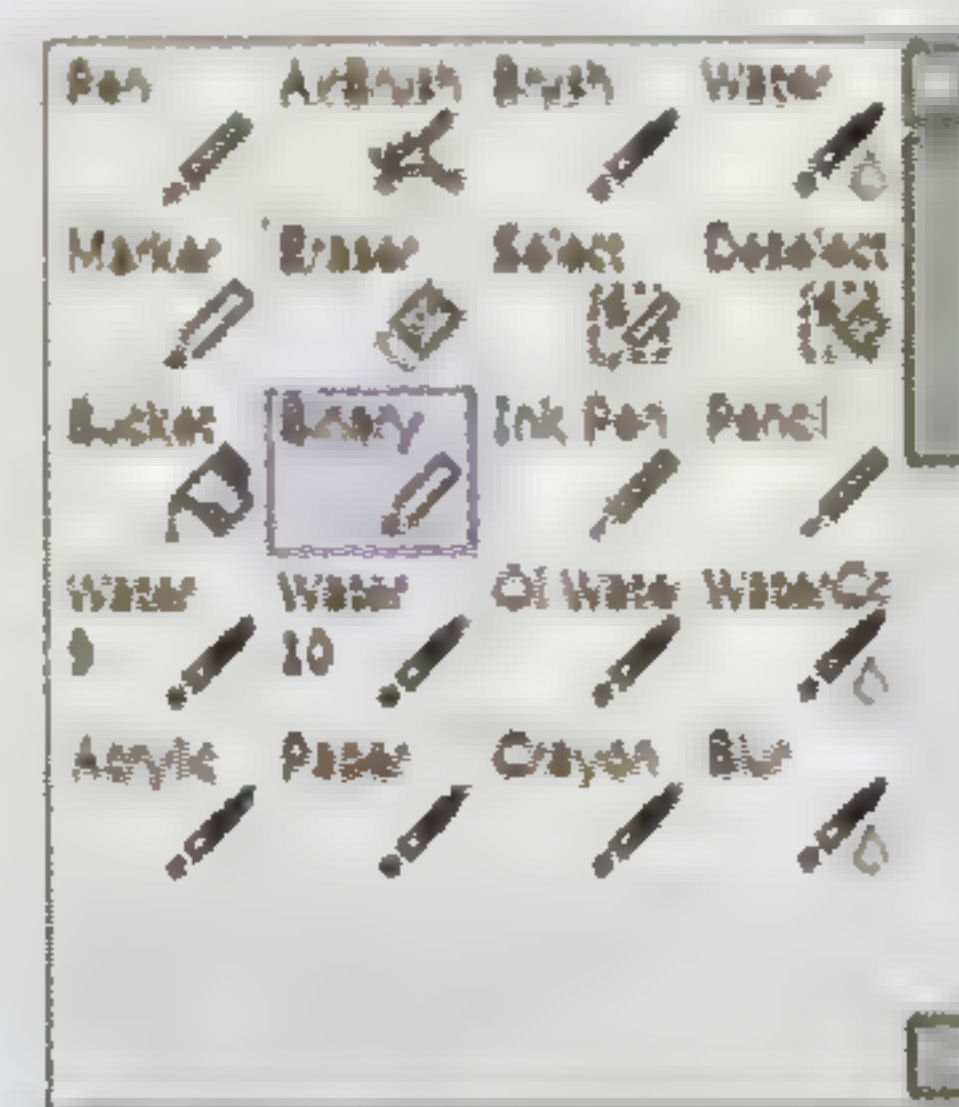
**Coarse and Accurate\***



For this tutorial, set it to these settings and size (see image on right). Next, we set the work area.



Additionally, remember to use this button under the swatch as eraser, rather than the normal eraser.



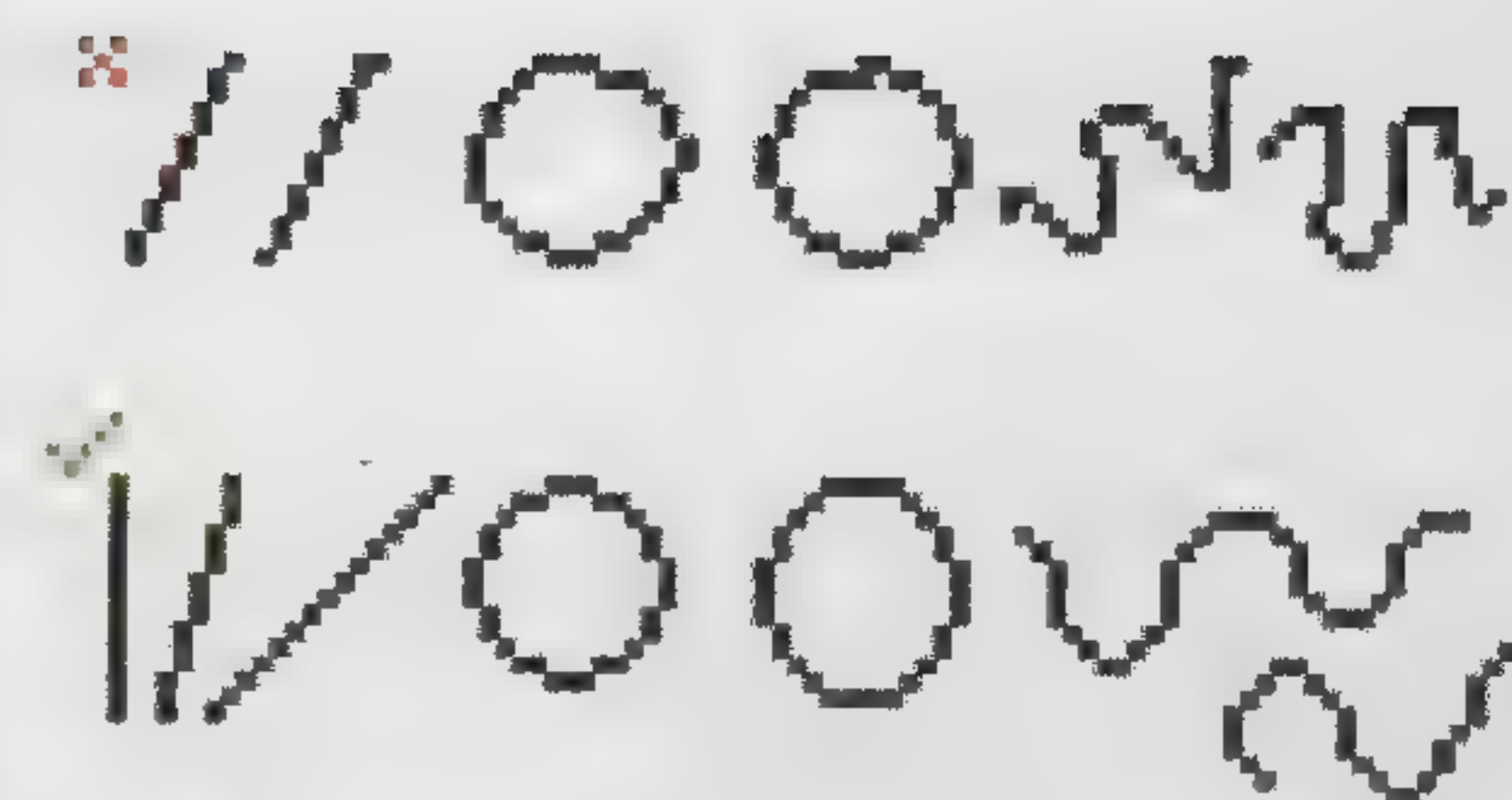
Paint tool SAI does not have rulers and grid so for now, we are only practicing. You'd need to use other programs if you want to seriously do pixel art. Grid isn't mandatory but for detailed works, it is helpful. If you will use a grid, Make sure it is at the right size, so that one square measures exactly one (1) pixel.



This is the Otaku Asia logo made by freehand in **Paint Tool SAI**.

The lines are not that perfect but oblongs are really hard to do, you know.

We move on to Photoshop.



To make our art be pleasing, we need to be perfect. Yes, PERFECT. I've drawn the ones at the bottom very carefully and equally. At times, it would be helpful to just draw it pixel by pixel. It is necessary that the segment length varies progressively, with increasing and decreasing numbers.

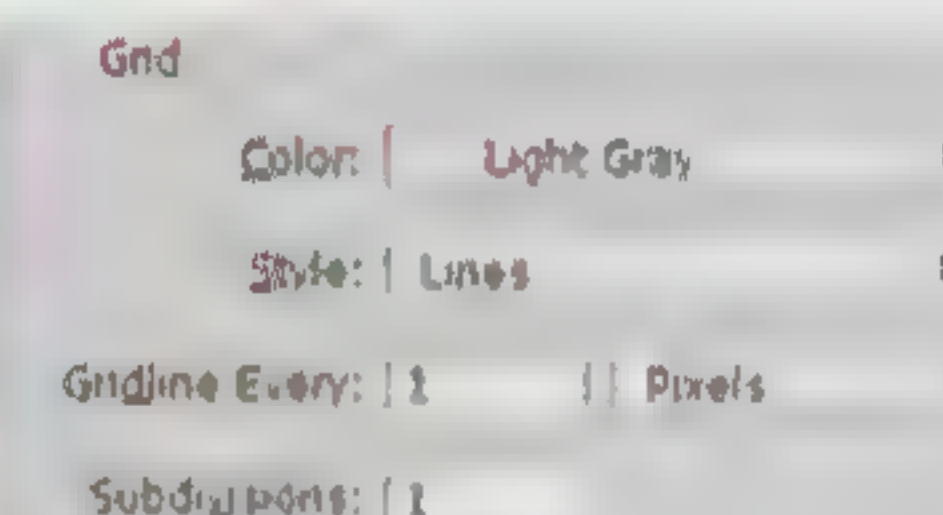


**ONWARDS!!** Make a new document with these:

Width: 50 pixels  
Height: 50 pixels  
Resolution:  
72 Pixels/Inch  
Color Mode:  
RGB (8-bit)

**Zoom In!! (Ctrl +)**

Go to **Edit > Preferences > Guides Grids & Slices...** and do this:



(You can also use **View > Show > Pixel Grid**)

To show the gridlines you just set, under **View**, check the following: **Extras** and **Show > Grid**.

If you want, uncheck **Snap**.



This is the Otaku Asia logo made by freehand in Photoshop.

Again, the lines are not that perfect but it is easier to do since you have the gridlines to help you.

Try it and enjoy.

To set your brush: go to the toolbar, right click over Paintbrush and select **Pencil Tool**. Change the size to 1px with 100% hardness.

To enlarge your work, compile all your layers into a folder, duplicate the folder and merge one of them. Hide the other one by clicking on the eye. Go to **Image > Image Size** and make sure to tick **Resample** and choose "**Nearest Neighbor**" with "**Preserve hard edges**".

You can now enrage your art by a thousand times and keep your bits.





## CON-IN-FOCUS

by kanddy



A unique event  
Calls for cosplay and grandeur  
By CNPH

That's it. I'm never trying writing a haiku. However, this thirty minute work of a poem captures Fantasy Quest (FQ). How? Let's analyze:

### A Unique Event

What makes anything *unique*? It's the experience, the people, the feeling. Our emotional response to anything is like a thumbprint: nothing is the same. In a sense, everything is unique. Now how do we gauge just *how* different FQ is?

Fantasy Quest is held on two days: October 24-25. Oct 24 being an exclusive Meet & Greet event with their guests and Oct 25 the event proper.

First thing an event-goer looks at is the price. VIP is 1,300 Php while Regular is 400 Php. So what are you paying for?

#### VIP 1,300:

- Entrance to Oct 24-25
- Meet & Greet with special guests on Oct 24 at Fernwood (with snacks)
- Photo-ops with the official guest(s)
- Autograph signing
- Exclusive access on Fernwood Gardens' Tree House

#### REGULAR 400:

- Entrance to Oct 25

There are only 240 tickets for the VIP.



Not to mention the venue, Fernwood Gardens. A fantasy setting for weddings, debuts and anniversaries turns into an anime setting during Fantasy Quest. The two have collaborated since the start thanks to Romeo Encisa Jr. who spearheads the event.

The title for this year is *August Wayfaring* whis leads people to believe it to be held in August. However, August defines *grandeur*, and this is what Fantasy Quest has been up to all this time. This is the selling point and benchmark of Fernwood Gardens and Cosplay Network Philippines.

## Calls for Cosplay and Grandeur

What is grandeur? It is defined as the quality of being magnificent, splendid or grand. Don't be shallow to think that it is judgement on a costume; Fantasy Quest is above that. The grandeur of the event comes from the ambience.

In other conventions, there is a stage which sets cosplayers apart from the con-goers. Fantasy Quest pretty much levels the field for a more intimate and relaxed ambience. Exchange coscards, business cards, take selfies, dance, ramp, etc. all without thinking of contests and prizes.

We mentioned, dance. There is a traditional and most anticipated ball at the end of the event. Trust us, you'll be begging your parents to let you out late. Be there to dance with characters who once only lived inside a screen.

Events these days are a contest of international guests. Of course, such an event as Fantasy Quest wouldn't be short of it. This year they have,

Vic Kumiko of Singapore  
Reiko from Singapore  
Vio Space from Singapore  
Yumi Elaine from Singapore  
Liui Aquino from Philippines  
Jun and Neru from Japan

and probably more yet to be announced.

#### Fantasy Quest sponsors\* are:

Geolica  
Vouge Royal Cosplay  
Mogu Mogu  
Hero TV

#### Media:

Chinoy TV  
When in Manila  
Otaku Asia  
Deremoe  
\*(announced as of 8/19/15)

While guests will be present on October 25, the Meet & Greet will only be on the 24th.



By CNPH

No cosplayer hopefully hasn't heard of the Facebook group, CNPH - Cosplay Market, managed by no other than Cosplay Network Philippines. It is such a good place to buy, sell and order costumes.

Additionally, CNPH provides photo, video and blog coverages to events. Open to tie-ups related to photography, fashion, cosplay and more. They have organized cosplay competitions for other events such as Rampage and Wargods Gaming Expo.

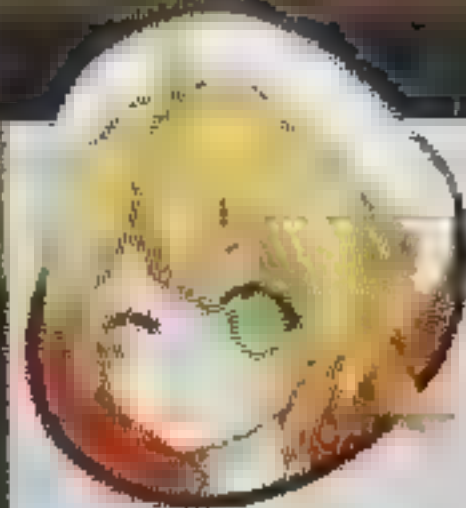
They have also a working project called, *1shotkill Project*. For more details, <https://goo.gl/6eC1uO>. It is a contest for photographers with Erving Go, Romeo Encisa, Jeff Ricalde and Eric DC as judges.

October is truly a month of eventful surprises. Do not forget to like and follow Fantasy Quest Saga on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/fqsaga>

[www.moonstruckcreatives.com/fq4](http://www.moonstruckcreatives.com/fq4)  
[marketing.cnph@gmail.com](mailto:marketing.cnph@gmail.com)  
(63) 915-432 3398  
(63) 933-366 3568

So the next question should challenge you; *what will you wear?*





## HOOKED BOOK

article by Yani

**Publisher:** Tuttle Publishing

**Format:** Paperback

**Date Published:** 8/5/2014

**Illustrations:** 350 old and rare photos

**Number of Pages:** 320

The invention of camera has indeed become useful to us. The photos that are being taken served as memories within us and also as a source of information to other people who is far away or present when the photo is taken during that particular event. It also makes us appreciate on how our place/country looks like before and how the community looks like before us and their lifestyle.



Kumamoto Castle  
Photo by: Uchida Kuichi  
1872



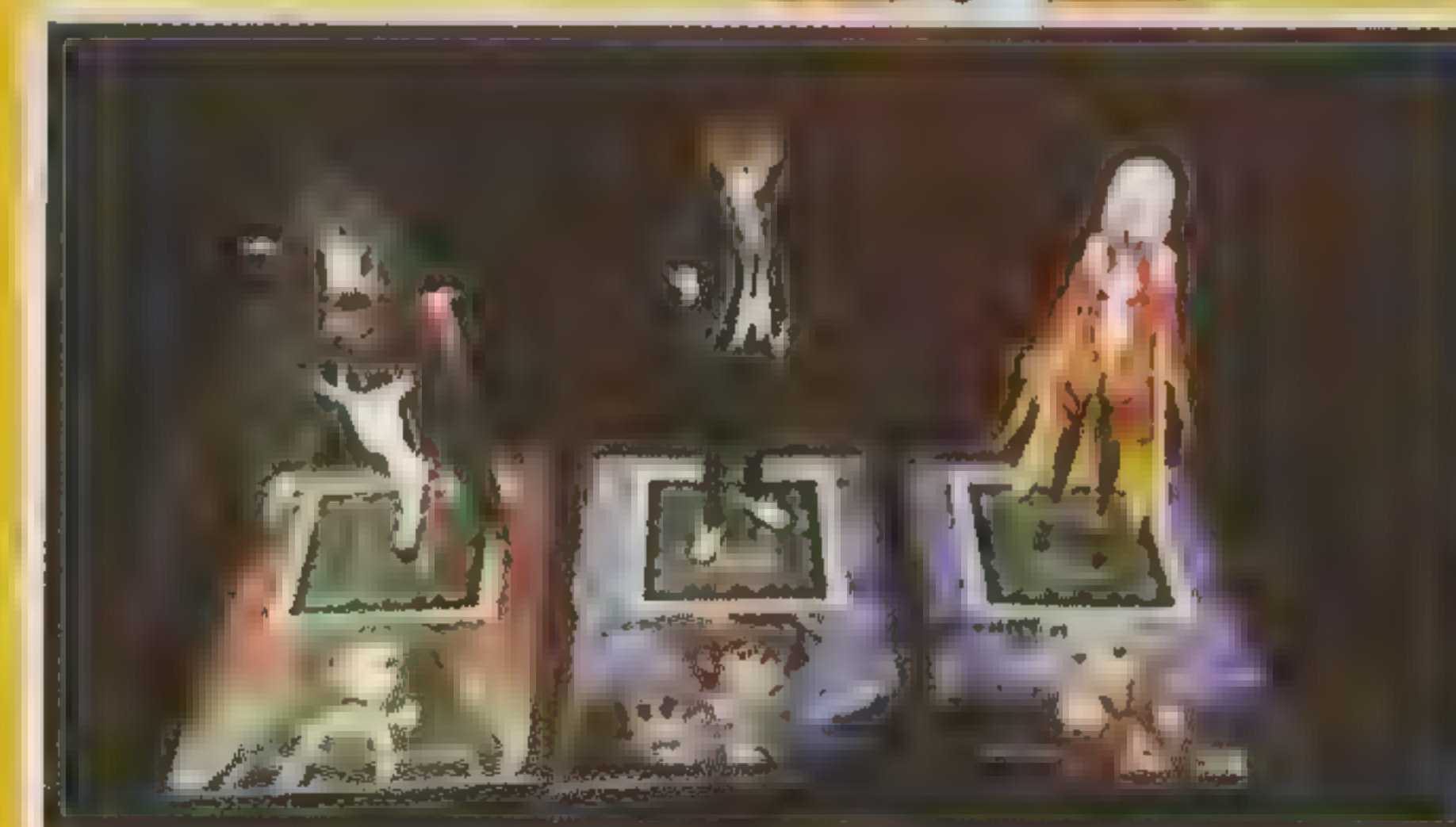
Canal, Yokohama  
Photo by: Kusakabe Kimbei  
1880

There are people who understands and appreciates more history if there are images included; it makes them more eager and fascinated to learn about it. As an otaku, if you're eager to learn more about Japan and its culture then the book: Photography in Japan is right for you. This book was written by Terry Bennett who is a british writer based in London. He has been collecting Japanese, Korean and Chinese photography for many years in order to produce an informative book that will surely help the people with their research related to it.

Aside from the photographs of places around Japan, images of some known and historical people can be also seen in this book. Not only the image itself but also who did take the photo plus information when it was taken and was happening during that time. You can also see what is their culture and tradition before and up to now, Japanese still practice it.

The photos that can be seen in this book are rare and some of them can be only seen in this book. They really made a great job in preserving the images which will be really useful to us; in looking back in the past of Japan.

## Anime AR Cards



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# LAZY SANDWICHES!?

WE gamers are focused, driven and most of all, busy. If you've watched Himouto Umaru-chan, you could relate to her usual diet of: softdrink, chips and sweets. Sometimes, we don't have enough funds to buy those and we find ourselves rummaging through the fridge for something... anything...

Still, we have to stay healthy and well. We can't get sick or else we wouldn't be able to earn money to buy new games. OA is here to help!! Yes!! Ohoho, lazy sandwiches are on the way!! ~~~

## PBJ SANDWICH

Start with the bread and then add with the items within your reach.

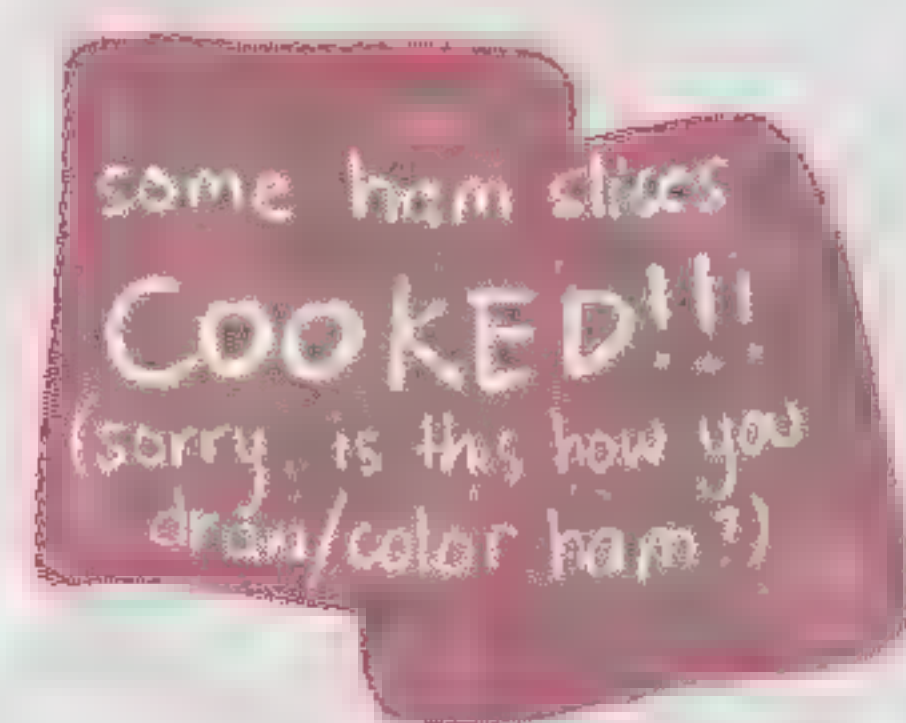


### Nutritional Value:

This is your staple mouthful to boost your sugar level and get your eyes to easily spot enemies from miles ahead.

## HAM + CHEESE SANDWICH

Move on to some meat that the woman in the house left in the fridge for your sake.

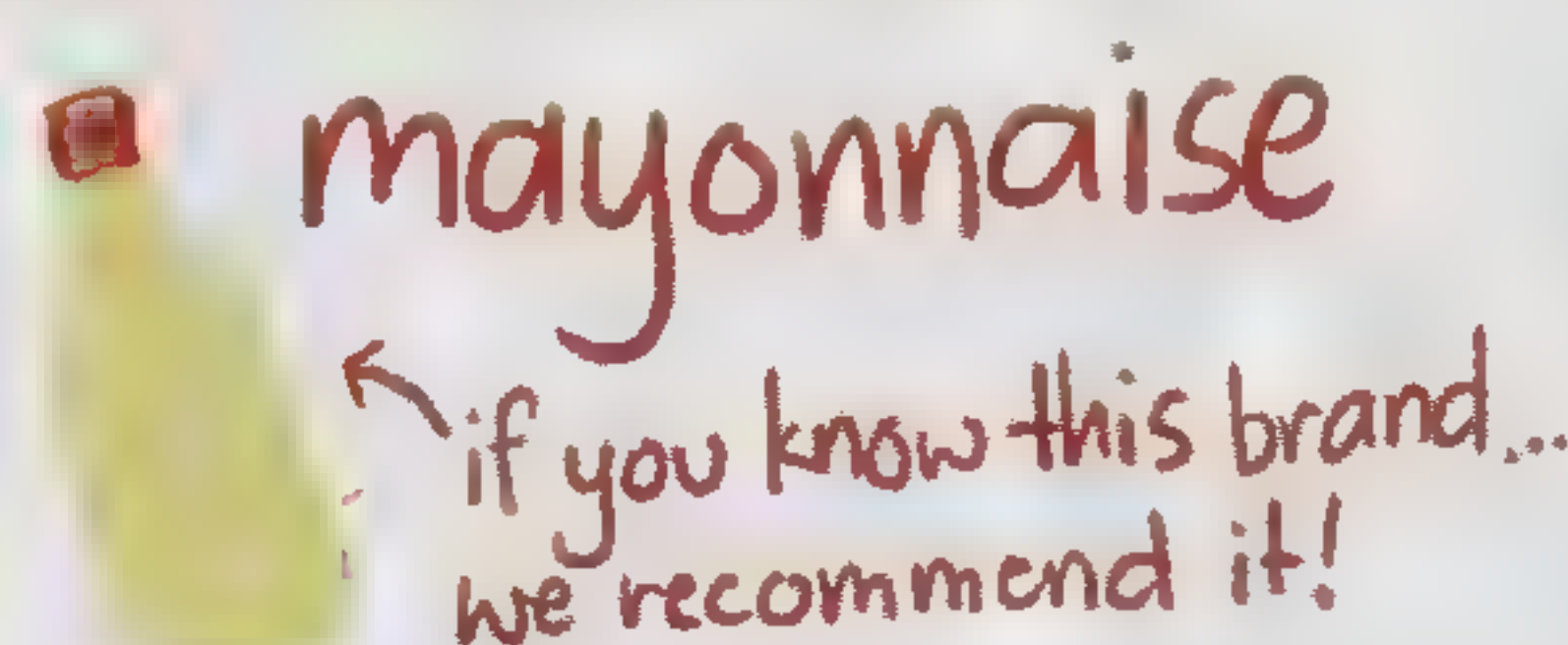


### Nutritional Value:

Sink your teeth in cheese that gives you the calcium you need to keep pressing those keys. Strong bones come with strong teeth so smile your way to rank #1 as photogenic gamer of the year.

## TUNA SANDWICH

All gamers need a change of diet. Why not? Just grab a can of canned tuna somewhere...

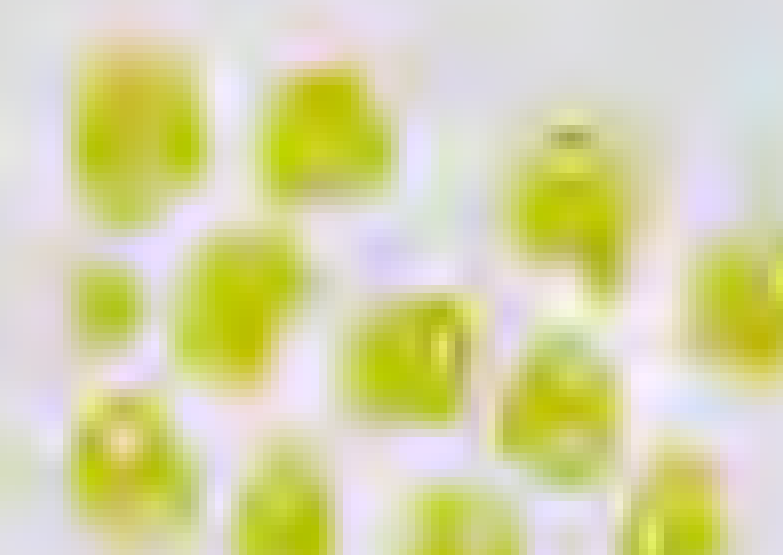


### Nutritional Value:

After caring to open a can of tuna, you'll remember to feed your Neko Atsume cats.

## KANI SANDWICH

Your best bet would be accompanying a parent to grocery. Silently slip some of the ingredients on that basket. If they notice tell them it's tasty and healthy (and that they should try it too).



bread! kani sticks (shredded~) cucumber corn kernels mayo! lettuce

### Nutritional Value:

Snap your way to victory as you devour your source of Vitamin B-12 to improve your concentration and master skills to reach god level. Your all-seeing power upgrades your status and pushes you to a bigger adventure.

### OA tips:

We noticed this in one of the new convenient stores. Kani sticks are sold in big amounts so it can get very expensive. However, it can be stored for a long time. Cucumber and lettuce should be consumed immediately, though so either buy only a small amount or use the rest for other things. Corn kernels are optional. The Japanese mayonnaise (the logo is a baby??) has a short shelf life. Meaning the best before date is short. Two months at most because in Japan, they use it a lot and encourages to finish it quickly. However, we've tried it and it still ok even though the best before date has passed. Stop using once you feel sick after eating!!

## BACON + POTATO CHIP SANDWICH

Now this is crazy... CRAZY GOOD. This sandwich sailed a thousand more gamers because it merged need and want in one.



bread sliced tomato lettuce bacon bits fried~ potato chips!

### Nutritional Value:

Help your liver function better and strengthen your immunity with saturated fat so feel no guilt to munch on this mouth-watering sandwich as you continue your venture in the lush greens of fantasy world.

### OA tips:

Best avoid barbeque or corn flavored chips. Then to hold them all together, add sandwich spread or mayonnaise. This must be the crunchiest sandwich ever.





I want to give the character  
that I play a real living  
human feel

— Maaya Sakamoto

## Maaya Sakamoto

**Birthday:**  
March 31, 1980

**Spouse:**  
Kenichi Suzumura  
(voice actor)

**Hobbies:**  
cooking, reading,  
singing

**Favorite colors:**  
pink and brown

article by lizac 3.0

Sakamoto Maaya has lived up to these words since she started her voice acting career. Perhaps the most versatile personality in the voice acting industry, Maaya Sakamoto has taken various roles that showcased her talent. Her roles range from angelic to tough voice types, thus, proving her acting prowess. She has been labeled "the woman with many voices" by MTV 81, one of the premiere music channels in Japan.

Maaya has been involved in numerous voice acting projects, musical plays, films, radio shows, and the music industry itself since 1992. She started voice acting at the ripe age of 13 for the role of Chifuru in Little Twins, but it was in The Vision of Escaflowne when Maaya rose to fame. She was given the role of Hitomi Kanzaki, the protagonist of the said anime where she also sang its opening theme, "Yakusoku wa Iranai".

Children from the 90's had been graced with the beauty of the anime Escaflowne when it was shown here in the Philippines roughly 15 years ago. Who can forget the beautiful sound of the piano at the beginning of the song? It has a mystical feel to it that would definitely send goosebumps to the listeners. It was in fact Maaya's first collaboration with renowned composer, Yoko Kanno. Since then, Yoko Kanno has been composing hit songs for her. Maaya was 16 then just like Hitomi, when she conquered both the worlds of voice acting and singing.

Maaya also takes part in voice acting projects for video games as much as she does in anime. She has lent her voice in more than 30 video game projects, both installments and stand-alone games.

Haruhi Fujioka from Ouran High School Host Club earned Maaya Sakamoto her first nomination in the very first Seiyuu Awards in the year 2007. Haruhi Fujioka attends as a scholar in Ouran Academy, a school for the rich. Because of her cool demeanor, she was mistaken as a guy by the host club. She accidentally breaks a luxury vase at the club, putting her in a huge amount of debt. As a result, she gets recruited as one of the club hosts. She takes advantage of the host club's misinformation and disguises herself as a guy to work at the club continuously. It is naturally expected of Haruhi to have a growing teenage boy's voice, which Maaya managed successfully. Haruhi as a guy, has a sexy and baritone voice that complements her attitude in school. Meanwhile, Haruhi's voice as a girl doesn't differ that much, but the audience can sense the timidity in her voice. This is very typical of a shy, Japanese high school girl with a low voice.

## Notable roles in anime:



(from left) Nino (Arakawa under the Bridge), Haruhi Fujioka (Ouran High School Host Club), Hitomi Kanzaki (The Vision of Escaflowne), Ciel Phantomhive (Black Butler), Kiyomi Takada (Death Note)



**Notable roles in  
video games:**

Aerith Gainsborough  
– Crisis Core: Final  
Fantasy VII

Lisa Hamilton – Dead  
or Alive

Lunamaria Hawke –  
Dynasty Warriors:  
Gundam 2

Lightning – Final  
Fantasy VIII

Aegis – Persona 3  
and Persona 4

Agria – Tales of Xillia

**Notable roles in  
dubbing:**

Nina Sayers – Black  
Swan

Jane Foster – Thor  
and Thor: The Dark  
World

Alice Kingsleigh –  
Alice in Wonderland

Rachel Berry – Glee

Susan Storm –  
Fantastic Four



Despite all these roles, Maaya Sakamoto only received two awards and two nominations in her entire voice acting career. In the seiyuu industry, she is underrated albeit being overexposed. How is that possible? This lies in the fact that she started out young, and at the time when voice acting award-giving bodies emerged, new and talented voice actors have surfaced as well. Simultaneously, the roles given to her had been of minor importance or if not, only the side characters. Indeed, there is little to no chance for Maaya to be acknowledged. It may sound rather unfortunate for this talented lady.

However, in the music industry, Maaya has surpassed every voice actor and actress with her successful singles, best-selling albums, and collaborations. She does not only have good vocals, but she also plays the guitar which gives her the edge to freely compose her own songs. Maaya has been very busy in various fields all along. Although award-giving bodies do not give her enough recognition, the common people who appreciate her craft know her as Maaya Sakamoto, already a legend herself. It proves to be even more worthy of any other award she can get.



0935 166 5849  
perkee2011@gmail.com







## Going through the discipline of... VPN Hack?!

Hello there young disciple, how fares the browsing in the vast world of the internet? Since you may be browsing for a long time now, have you ever encountered the term "VPN"?

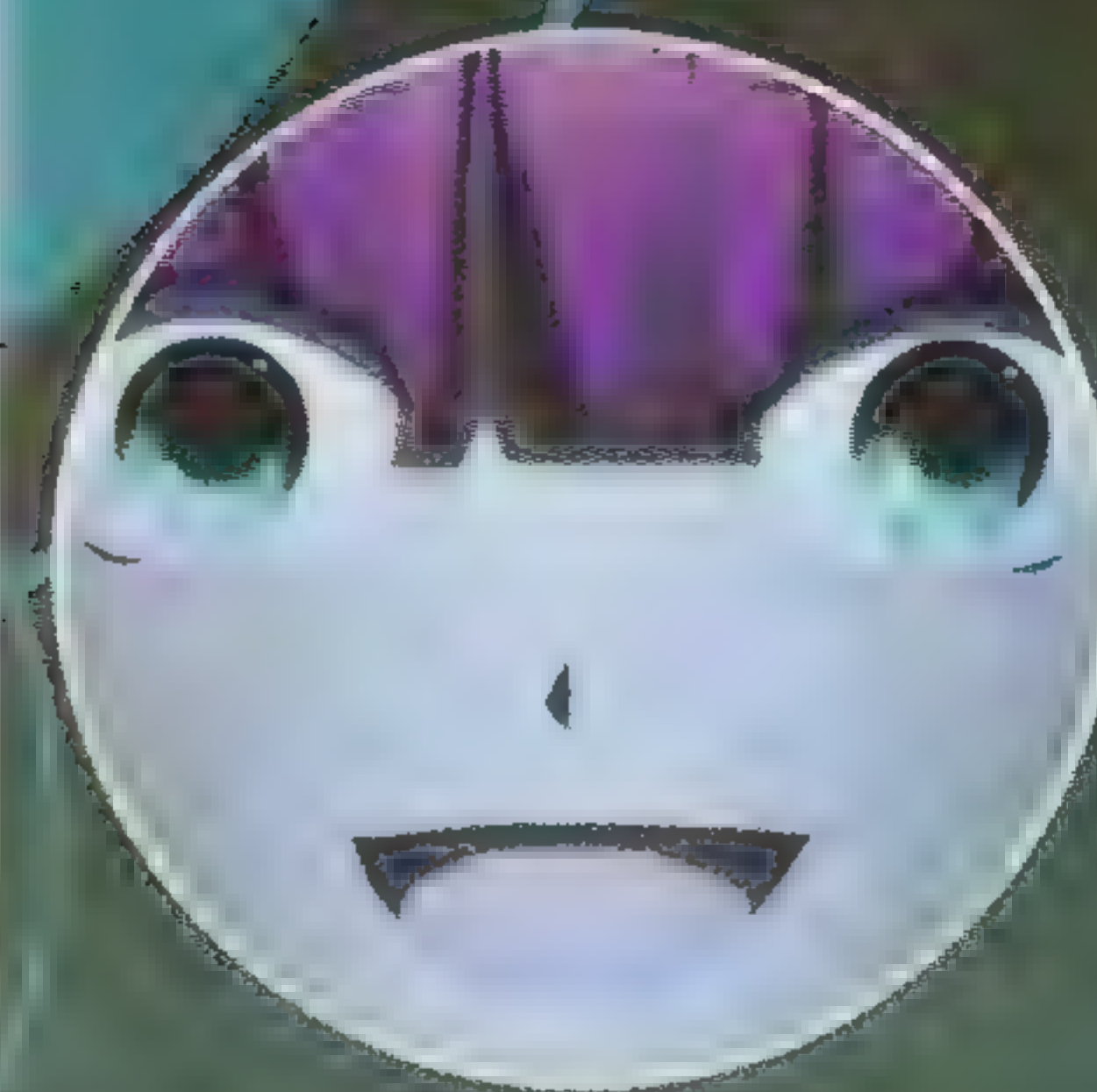
If not, let senpai give you a little discussion about this topic.

### What is VPN?

VPN stands for Virtual Private Network. We, as users, can be allowed to send or receive data cross the shared or public networks if we are directly connected to this private network. Imagine it as a group of computers that are networked together that tunnels private data over the internet. We get to encounter it, for example, in WIFI enabled malls wherein we click this link and go to this website and enter our credentials then we get to use the internet.

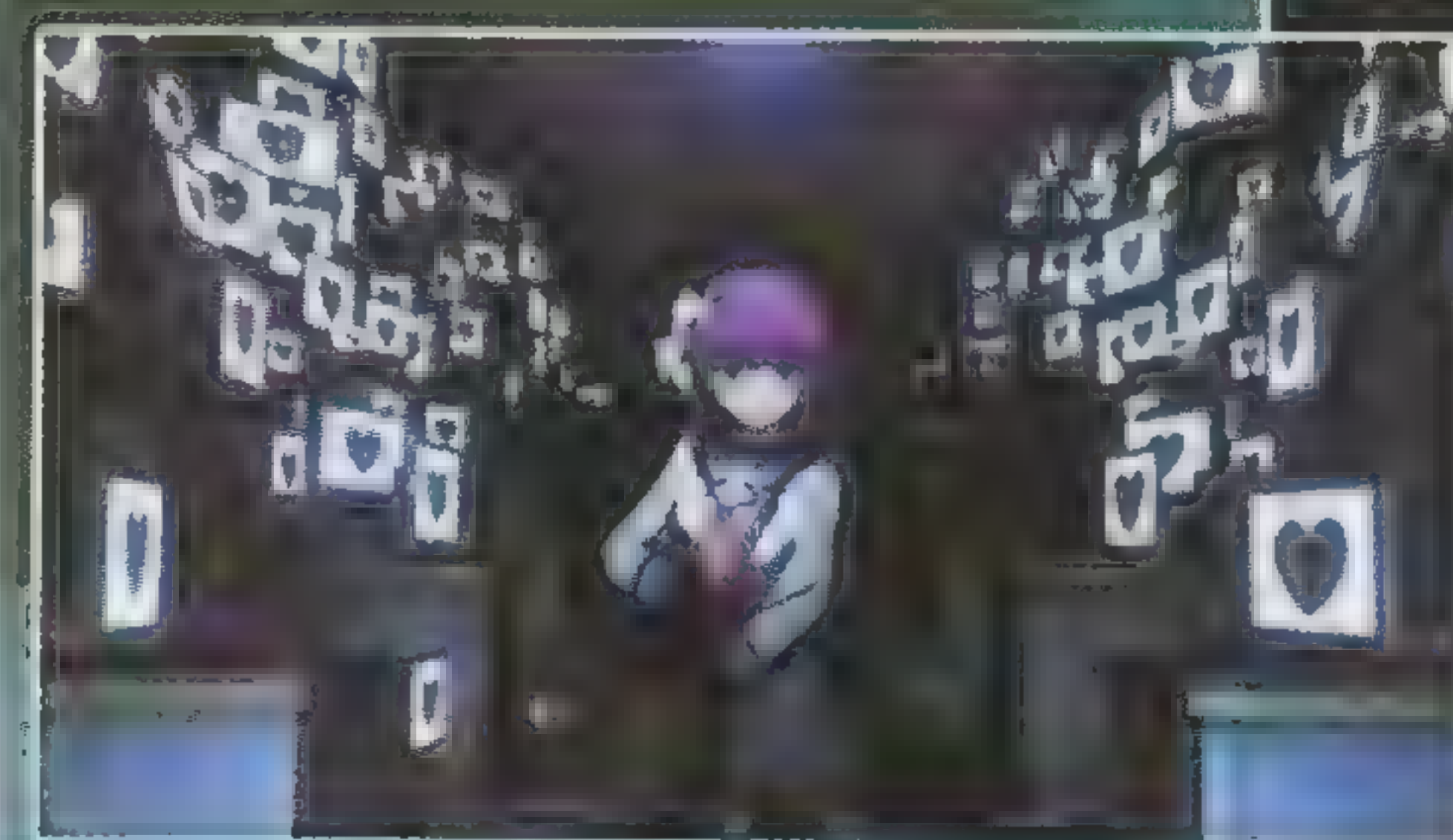
What's cool about VPN is that everything is secured, what you are sending and receiving are all encrypted and secure from other people (who might want to steal your information).

VPN NETWORK



There are situations though that you need to use the VPN but in due to a forbidding scenario, you can't access such. Now, senpai will teach you how to hack the VPN if and only if you'll use it for good.

Though the VPN seems perfect, there will always be a loophole to every created technology by mankind. These are some ways on how to hack a VPN (senpai will not mention everything):



Use someone's account or computer that has access to that specific VPN.

One of the best ways to hack the system is to use a system that has access itself to it. Use his or her system to breach through the VPN though you will need his or her credentials in order to access it. If you know this person, you can simply ask permission.

### Software Power

There are software created that can help you to get pass the security of the VPN. There are a lot of software that are not only created for the computer but also created for the smartphones in case you'll be surfing the net through one. When using this way, be sure to be careful as this path may be risky.

There are many reasons to use VPN: security, watching videos, live shows without dealing with the crummy local network (PH has the slowest internet connection), access region-locked sites, etc.

Our only advice is to use this for good and only for private use. Selling your downloads and videos are illegal and will be apprehended by the police.

With great internet comes great responsibility.







COSPLAYER

# RB CHENG

Genius Underneath the Suit

by John Robert Lim



image by Roy Dognidon

Cosplay is such a mainstream and visible part for the anime community nowadays. With events aplenty, everyone knows and is familiar with the hobby of dressing up as your favorite characters. However, what is (relatively) rarely seen is the act of dressing up as mecha, or robotic characters. Surely you may have seen a cosplay of a gundam or War Machine from Iron Man here and there, but how about knowing someone who solely makes his mark on the community with mecha cosplay?

This man has been quickly picking up steam as one of the country's premiere mecha cosplayers, if he isn't there already by now. His costumes receive a lot of praise for their level of detail, and he has a claim to fame in winning cosplay competitions. Despite this, he is normally reserved and prefers to keep a low profile, shown by his convention identity being known more as "Geno Breaker" or "Gundam Unicorn" rather than himself.

We're privileged to have gotten the chance to talk with him and learn more about him. Curious about what the genius under the suit really is like? Without further ado, a one-on-one with RB Cheng himself!

**Good day. First of all, may we have a little self-introduction?**

RB Cheng, 26 years old from Quezon City, BS ComSci and AB Animation Major.

**Interesting. How long have you been part of the community and which characters have you cosplayed as?**

I started cosplaying in 2006. Some of the characters I cosplayed as are Death Saurer (Zoids), Shockwave (Transformers) and Hecarim (League of Legends), Gundam Unicorn Destroy (Gundam Unicorn), among others.

**That's a lot. Now, a common theme in people is an origin story of sorts. May we have your so-called origin story? As in, we would like to know about how you started the hobby and if there were any specific inspirations for you?**

The main person who inspired me into the hobby is the Japanese cosplayer Lenfried. When I saw her dressing up as characters, it got me curious, and I was able to google that she was *cosplaying* and that got me into the hobby and community.

**Describe your first cosplay experience. Maybe there's something that really altered or shifted the course of your cosplay career back then.**

It's mostly my mentors and the other veterans back then who shared their advice as well as cosplay principles. One mentor *quizzed* me on my character when he was helping me make the costume, teaching me that you need to at least know the character to be able to cosplay it well. Another mentor commented and criticized my current

cosplay and future cosplan, showing me that you should also choose who you cosplay. On the other side, I did encounter some dislikable individuals which showed me that you still need to be careful in the community.

image by arkadymac.com



You need to know the character to be able to cosplay it well....



With almost a decade of experience under your belt, surely there would be some memorable experiences.

Last year I won a trip in a contest as King Gojulas. Part of the prize included a trip to AFA 2014 in Singapore. That is the second time I have been out of the country and my first time in Singapore as well as attending a convention abroad.

To follow up on the question... What made you decide to focus in mecha cosplay? One of the main reasons I consider in choosing a character is being the first cosplayer of that character internationally, or at least locally. While there are exceptions, most of the cosplans fit this. Mecha and creature cosplay is considerably rarer and most of the characters in this genre fit that condition. Another reason is that I am a 3D artist by profession, and mecha cosplay is sorta like 3D modeling in real life. Finally, I love mecha and robots since I was a child. I loved collecting and building Gundam and Zoids, so mecha cosplay is a dream come true, not to mention some of my characters are those toys that I never got when I was a kid due to their prices.

Describe the experience. Cosplaying mecha would probably be a different experience from other forms of cosplay for sure. Mecha cosplay is not easy. First stage is planning, and mecha needs a lot more planning because the costumes usually do not fit the human form. You have to be accurate and proportional, but also need to be able to see and move around. Building the costume also takes time and expenses. After finishing the costume, you have to know how to pack it effectively in order to protect the parts. Arriving to events and putting it on would require help as well.

In mecha cosplay, you have the challenge of walking around in stilts (6in. are my smallest, 30in. are my tallest), moving around kilos of rubber around you, and navigating with 10% visibility. In King Gojulas, I cannot see anything 4ft in front of me that's under 3ft in height. Despite having almost 8 years experience walking in stilts in mecha, I still have a 1-hour maximum wear time in that costume.

Cosplay for me is a form of art expression as well as a challenge to improve skills

What makes you decide which character to cosplay?

I seldom go with the trend.

In fact, a cosplan which becomes trending will most likely be suddenly canceled or pushed to a lower priority. Besides being one of my favorite characters, other requirements would be the character never being cosplayed, as I have mentioned before. I dare to cosplay characters most people do not even consider "cosplay-able", but I also check if the cosplan would be challenging or really not feasible. Being a competitive cosplayer, 70% of the time I also pick characters who have a shot in competitions.

Thanks for giving us that in-depth glimpse at RB Cheng the cosplayer. Now we would like to get to know you in a more personal perspective. As a member of the

cosplay community, what do you think makes the hobby fun? Cosplay for me is a form of art expression as well as a challenge to improve skills. Being with others who enjoy it, sharing ideas and experiences, competing in contests... All these make my typical con day fun and memorable. Cosplay is a great place to meet new people and is a door to many new opportunities as well.

Image by Justin Gomez



**Outside cosplay, what are your hobbies and what do you keep yourself busy with?** I am an MMA artist focusing on Judo, Muay Thai, and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. I am also an avid gamer, especially in MOBA games. Currently, I work as an animation head in an architect studio and freelance 3D artist for gaming companies abroad.

**How do you balance your time for your cosplay hobby? Care to share your tips?** Back in high school, I kept to myself a strict schedule and time allotment for family, school, and cosplay. I discipline myself to budget my time and plan ahead. I do not sacrifice time with my family or review time to cram a cosplay, and vice versa.

**Any words of advice for people wanting to dive into the world of mecha cosplay or the hobby in general?**

First thing would be to never give up. Take problems as challenges and mistakes as lessons learned. Nothing will happen if you decide to give up at once.

Another would be to take things slowly. Mecha cosplay is not easy. You do not learn how to walk on 30-inch stilts with 10% visibility with kilos of rubber around you in one try. It's great to dream and plan big, but take things slow and easy.

**Last words for aspiring cosplayers and people who look up to you?**

Never be contented with mediocrity. There is always room for improvement. Being proud of an achievement is great, but never settle for "It's good enough". Always push your limits and aim higher.

**Never let people tell you what you can or cannot do, but learn to accept legitimate criticism as signs for improvement.**

And that's a wrap. Lots of thanks to RB Cheng for sharing his story, experiences, and personal advice.

You may follow his works on Facebook through his Aletheia Armory page: [www.facebook.com/AletheiaArmory](http://www.facebook.com/AletheiaArmory)



image by Roy Dognidon



image by Justin Gomez



**COSMIC BYTES**  
COSPLAY SHOP

**FOR ALL YOUR COSPLAY NEEDS**

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Photo by: Fritz Tentavita





**Basta Likhang Pinoy ASTIG!**

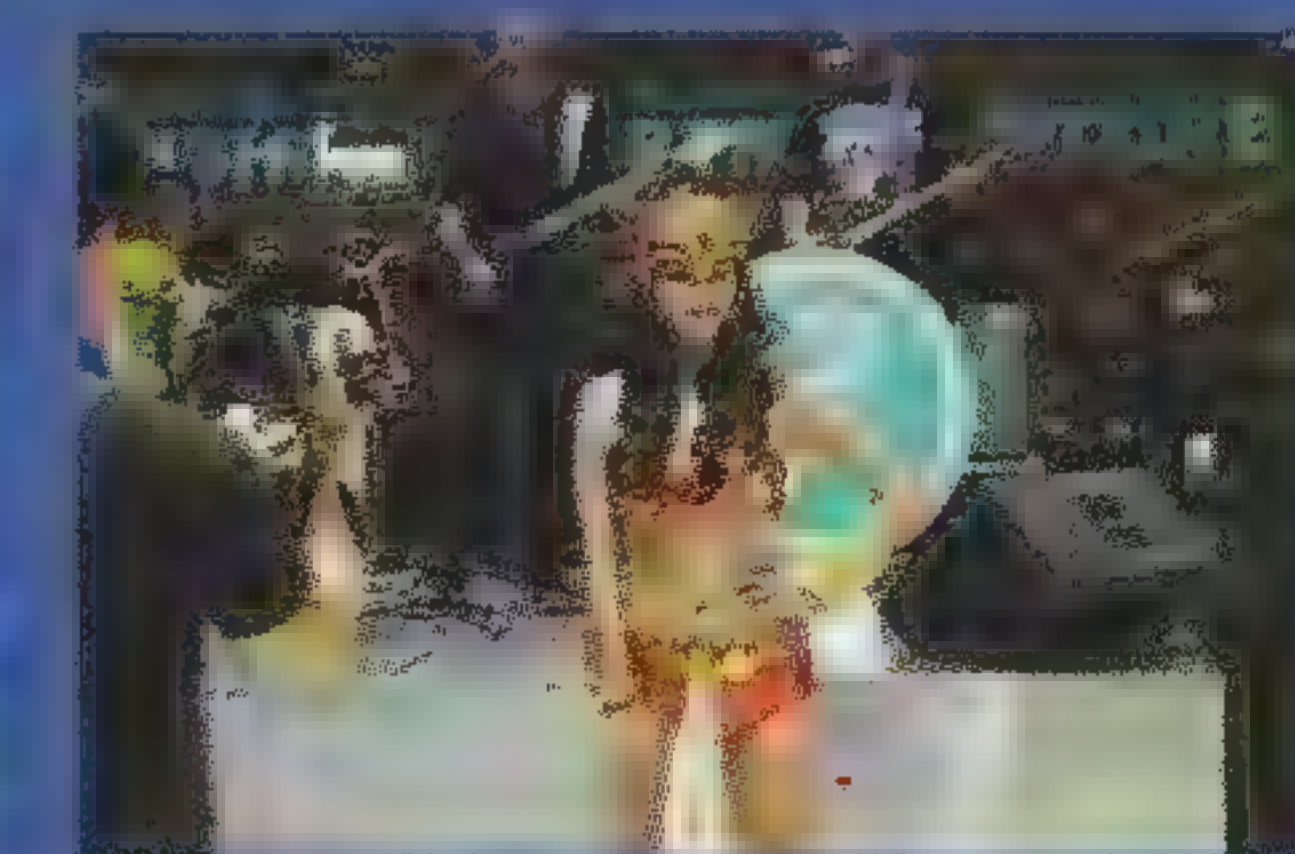
article by Ann

photos courtesy of aikadymae.com

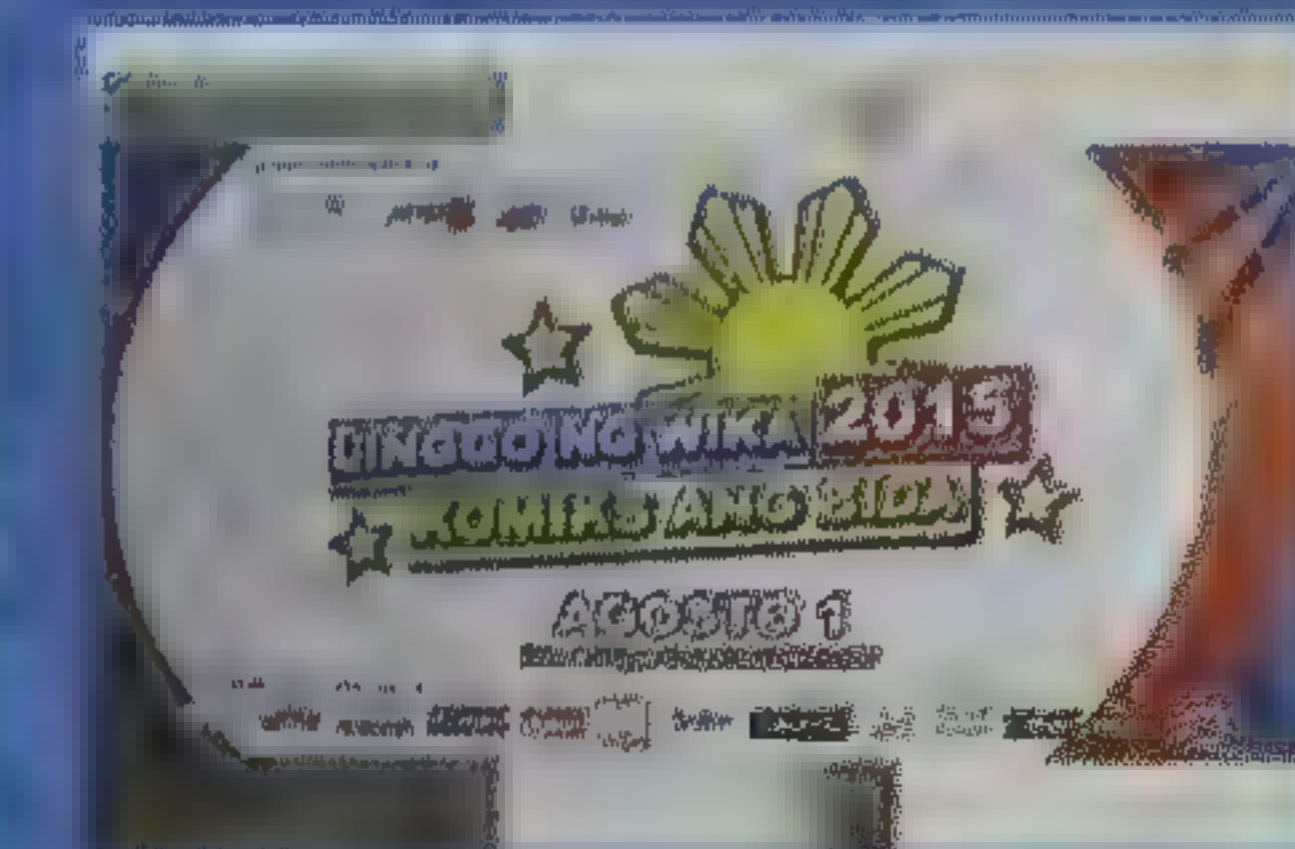
The Pearl of the Orient Seas offers a wide room for the imagination and the Filipinos were blessed to bask in this rich culture. Inspirations come left and right, and because of these, the Filipinos joined the world in celebrating entertainment in conventions. By joining, we did not let ourselves be drifted away with the foreign ideas. In fact,

## GTMACCON (Games, Toys, Manga, Anime, Cosplay, Comics Convention)

embraces the creativity that the Filipinos have. GTMACCON was established on October 22, 2011. It is currently headed by its founder, Kit Perez. Since 2011, the events that GTMACCON organizes have been the first and only Pinoy Komiks Cosplay event



Ayon kay GTMACCON Head Kit Perez, layunin ng pagdiriwang na maipamalas ang pagiging malikhain ng mga Filipino artists sa larangan ng Pinoy Comic industry. "As much as we can, kahit anong exposure we will do para mabigay sa mga artists, kasi po para sa amin kung kaya ng mga kabataan na suportahan yung mga foreign characters why not the local ones also."



It's an event that highlights Pinoy Komiks and the cosplay of original homegrown Filipino characters.

As GTMACCON would phrase it, "Basta Likhang Pinoy ASTIG!"





## HERE TO PLAY

article by Ren

Photo credits

Screenshot from

Rumble Radio Episode 14

Mikachu

John Lloyd Cruz

# Reign Supreme with RUMBLE RADIO

Are you a gamer? A geek, a nerd or maybe you love anime? Or maybe you are a combination of the mentioned? Well we got something that will cater to your needs and that is a dose of tuning in to Rumble Radio!

Rumble Radio is the new addition to the Rumble Royale family and the very first online video talk show that caters to...

**+ GAMERS + NERD CULTURE**  
**+ GEEKS + enthusiasts**

Not only that, they also discuss things about anime and cosplay and a whole lot more which may be new to your knowledge. The hosts that you'll be expecting to hear and see are Mikachu and John Lloyd Cruz (and the voice behind the scenes). The show first aired in April 28 of this year and it continues to keep rocking your radio life. ◦

Like other radio shows, Rumble Radio has segments per show like the following:

**THE FEED** The segment where they share news about games, e-sports and nerd news.

**THE LOCAL LOOP** They give updates about local game news and information about upcoming conventions, tournaments and they also update the viewers or listeners about the hottest stuff in the

**THE DAILY VIRAL** They show and discuss about what is trending in the Internet.

Of course, in shows like these, music will never be out of the picture. Rumble Radio plays your favorite music after each segment with music themes everyday:

### METAL MONDAYS

Your dose of the metal genre.

### FREE FOR ALL TUESDAYS

Where they play songs by request.

### OPM THURSDAYS

A dash of our homegrown music.

### RR COUNTDOWN

Top 10 music that were voted by the listeners.

### GUEST PLAYLIST ON SUNDAYS


A special guest will visit the booth and play his or her favorite songs.

In line with the stated playlist, Rumble Radio invites a special guest/s that will not only play his or her favorite songs but will also co-host in the show. You'll get to meet more hosts that will bring excitement in your listening experience as you tune in to Rumble Radio.


The three hour show features discussions are lively and full of energy as brought by the hosts with the listeners having chances to win fabulous prizes from the contests that the show will have. The information you'll get to know will be sure filled with not only with new knowledge but also it's mixed with fun that will get your interest. Not only that, it can be something to increase your fun while you play games or while doing other stuff.

Tune in to and get to know more of Rumble Radio in:

[www.rumbleroyle.com](http://www.rumbleroyle.com)

 /RumbleRadio

 [www.twitch.tv/rumbleroyle](http://www.twitch.tv/rumbleroyle)

 RumbleRoyalePH





# YOSHINOYA

Japan's Famous Beef Bowl

WE DELIVER

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"OVER 1,200 STORES  
WORLDWIDE"



SM NORTH SM MEGAMALL SM MANILA SM MALL OF ASIA  
FAIRVIEW TERRACES GLORIETTA ROBINSONS GALLERIA



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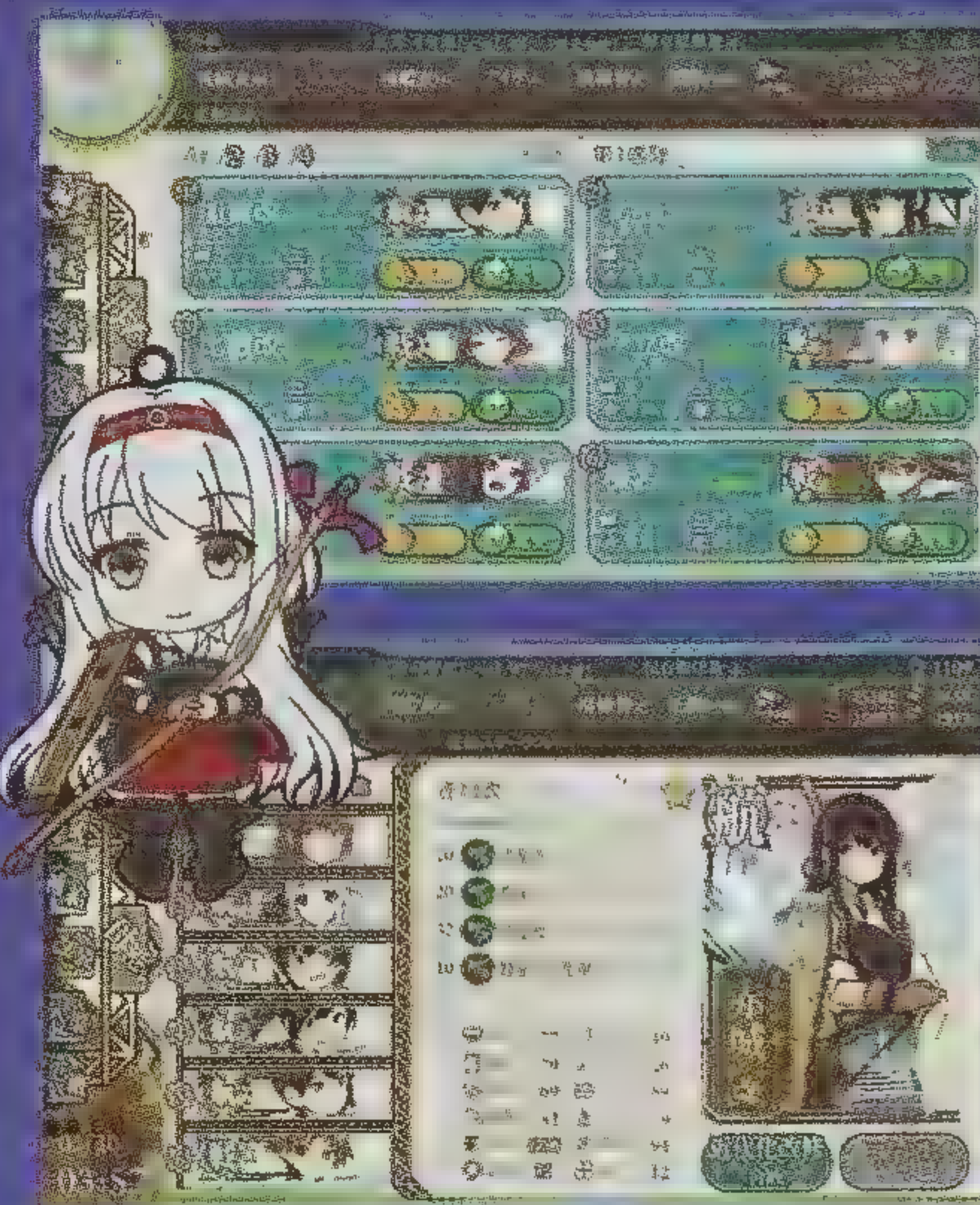
## GAMER'S ARENA

# KANTAI COLLECTION



Kantai Collection, translated as Fleet Collection, subtitled with Combine Fleet Girls Collection and most commonly known as KanColle, is a highly popular free-to-play Japanese web browser game developed by Kadokawa Games and published by DMM. The game was launched on April 2013 and recent survey states that 3 million users have registered as of April 2015.

written by Mikelle

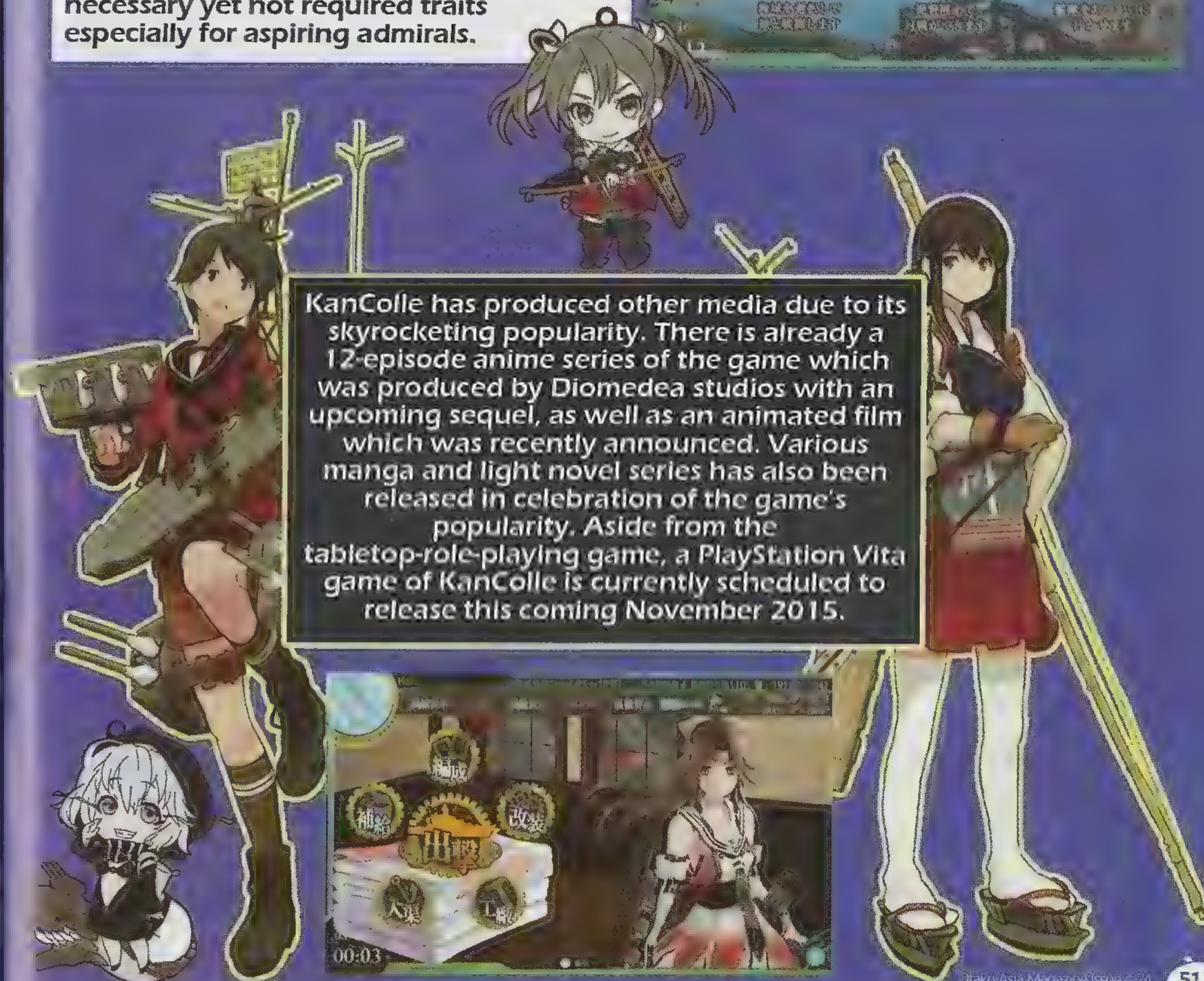
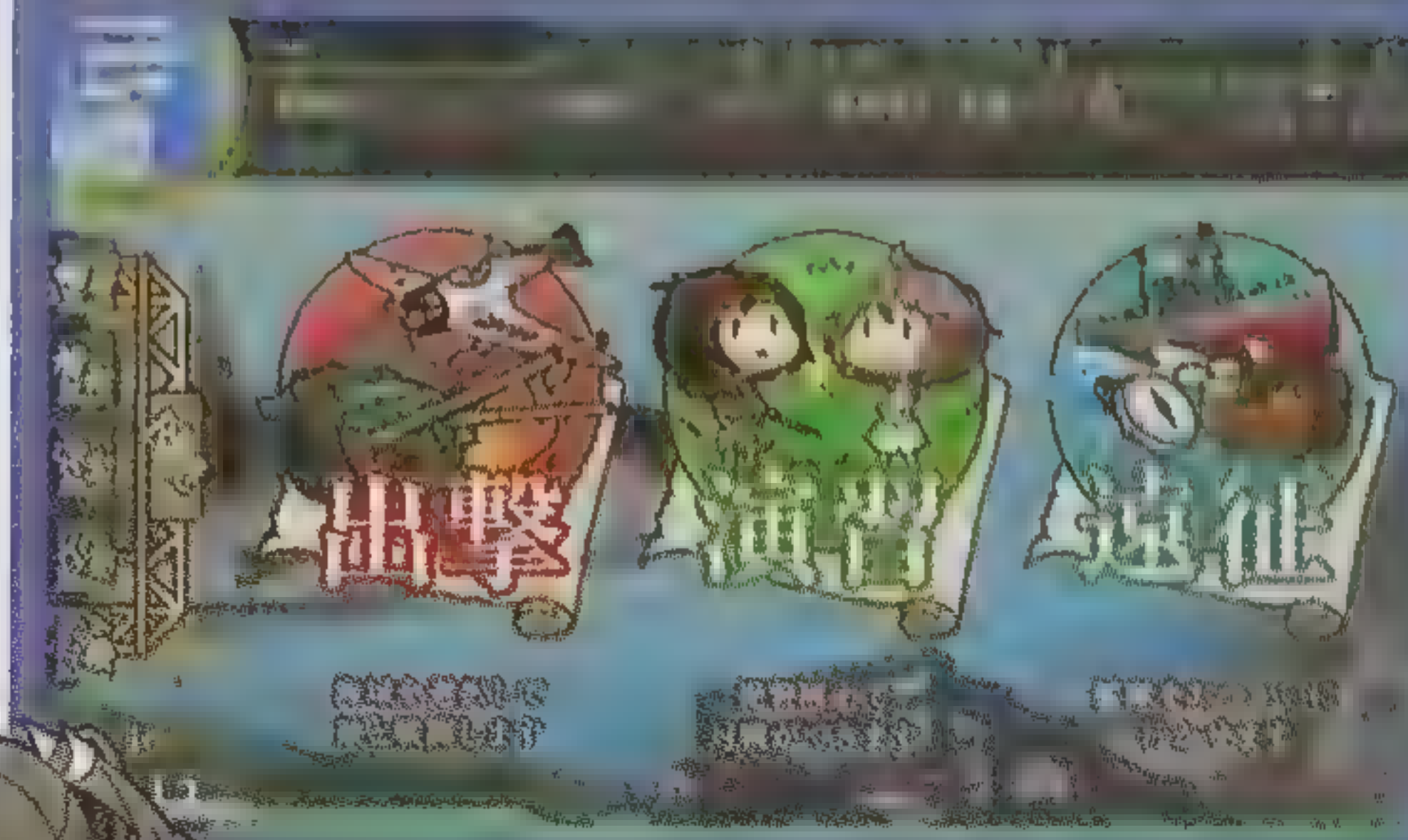


The game's setting is quite simple; a player assumes the role of an admiral and gathers fleet girls, aka Kanmusu that are based on World War II era naval ships, and resist against warships of unknown origins called the Abyssal Fleet. Players must also procure resources, gather equipments and modernize their fleets in order to effectively complete their quest. KanColle also holds many in-game events mostly every season and are known as a high-risk, high-reward quest by avid players.

As a browser game, KanColle does not really demand a high graphic requirement. Since the game is region locked, players from countries other than Japan must use various ways such as proxies and VPNs in order to access the game. Fret not since there are many tutorials online that could assist aspiring players on how to bypass the region lock. There are also various viewer tools specifically made for KanColle that alleviate the burden of using proxies every time you access the game.

Battle in KanColle isn't as easy as it looks since players must make it from the starting node to the end node while combating various Abyssal fleets that stands in your way. If not careful, your ship girls could be endangered and get sunk by enemy ships and once they sink, they are forever lost so knowing when to advance and when to retreat is vital. No need to falter since there are many guides around the net that could assist admirals and allow you to research many effective methods to counteract any given situation.

KanColle is heavily RNG-based which means that ship gathering or construction, equipment development, resource procurement, combat, compass navigation and many other main features of the game is governed by this system. In case some are not informed, RNG or Random Number Generation is an instance where players randomly gets a result which makes luck and patience as necessary yet not required traits especially for aspiring admirals.



KanColle has produced other media due to its skyrocketing popularity. There is already a 12-episode anime series of the game which was produced by Diomedea studios with an upcoming sequel, as well as an animated film which was recently announced. Various manga and light novel series has also been released in celebration of the game's popularity. Aside from the tabletop-role-playing game, a PlayStation Vita game of KanColle is currently scheduled to release this coming November 2015.



After the overwhelming success of *Sword Art Online: Hollow Fragment*, the series just got itself a new game under its belt. But this time, Kirito and friends' next big adventure is set in the land of the fairies—*ALfheim Online*.

Having arrived at the new hub city, Kirito's group encounters the Shamrock guild. Although led by Sumeragi, the guild's official leader is Seven aka Professor Nanairo Sharvin, an MIT alumna conducting research on virtual societies forming within online networks. Crossing paths with "*Rainbow Arshavin*" springs Kirito into action and is once again on a quest to uncover the mysteries of "*Svart Alfheim*".

*Sword Art Online: Lost Song* is an action-RPG developed by Artdink and published by Namco Bandal Games for the PS Vita and PlayStation 3 as the third game adaptation on console for the series. The game was first released in Japan on March 15 followed by a Taiwan/Hong Kong release on April 28. Lastly, an English translated version of the game was released for other Asian countries on May 12.

In November, *Lost Song* will have a separate English localization for North America and Europe.

# GAMEPLAY

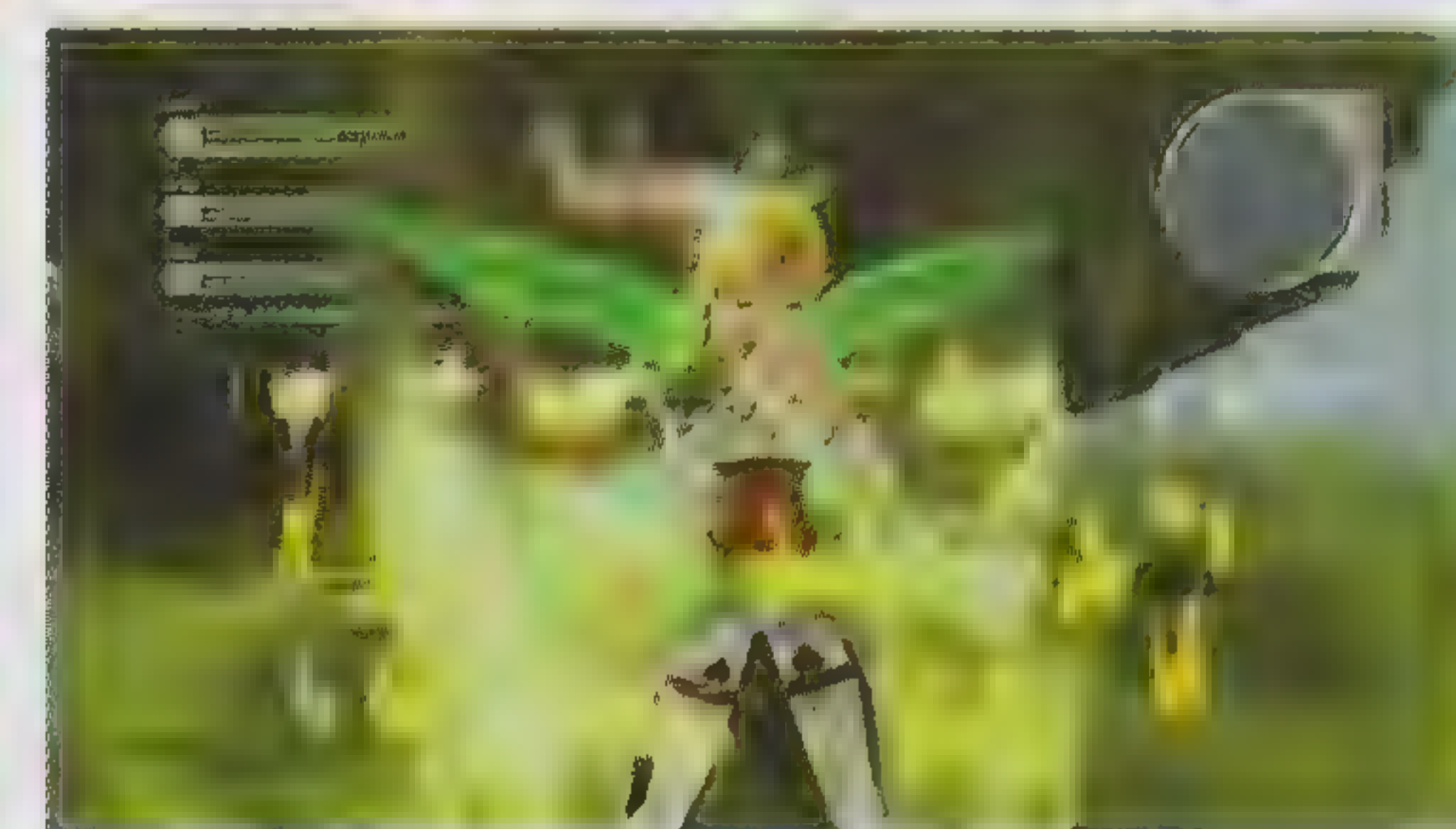
*Sword Art Online: Lost Song* is set in an alternative ALO, but in the same timeline as the previous games. The game's primary exploration ground is a new area called "*Svart Alfheim*"—a series of floating continents near the World Tree. For the first time in the series, players are able to form a 3-man party and play as characters other than Kirito. In addition, players are able to create their own custom characters, though the game will still progress as if you were playing as Kirito.

Since *Lost Song* is set in *ALfheim Online*, players can now fly and use magic to attack or provide support to the party. Combat feels more like a real-time hack and slash RPG now compared to *Hollow Fragment*'s semi-turn based battle system.

## ソードアート・オンライン SWORD ART ONLINE —ロスト・ソング—



*Lost Song* probably the best SAO video game we will have for now. The stiff gameplay *Infinity Moment* and *Hollow Fragment* had has been replaced with a more fluid and fast-paced action-oriented system so that players won't feel restricted with their movements, attack patterns, and item consumption. The option to play as characters other than Kirito or create a custom character let its players experience the game as an Undine healer or a tanky Leprechaun whenever they feel bored with the straightforward dual-wielding Spriggan.



One of the good things about *Lost Song* is that it doesn't require its players to grind for hours just to become stronger. The downside, however, is that the game is only 20 to 30 hours long. This is where online multiplayer comes in. In multiplayer mode, you can form a party of 4 with your friends and explore *Svart Alfheim* together as characters from the SAO universe.

As a treat for the fans of Reki Kawahara's *Accel World*, *Kuroyukihime* aka *Black Lotus* will be included as a playable character in *Lost Song*.

Overall, *Lost Song* is a game that lets you feel the thrill of aerial battles in a vast land inhabited by fairies. This is the perfect opportunity to immerse yourself into the world of *ALfheim Online*.









Charlotte  
シャーロット

# THE SWORD MASTER

WHERE PROPS LOOK LIKE  
REAL WEAPONS



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for  
**Passion**

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終わりのセラフ  
Seraph of the end

## <<YUICHIRO HYAKUYA>>

(voiced by: Miyu Irino)

Demon Weapon: Asumaru – Possession type demon in a form of katana.

Yuu does not always follow Guren's orders and is eager to fight. He strongly believes he can fight all the vampires alone and has no need for comrades. This way of thinking made him unfriendly and prideful that all his classmates avoid him.

## <<MIKAELA HYAKUYA>>

(voiced by: Kensho Ono)

Mika is Yuu's bestfriend at the Hyakuya Orphanage. As a vampire, he refuses to drink blood from humans but drinks Krul's blood instead. His goal is to save Yuu from the humans who he thinks are only using Yuu for their selfish purposes.

In the year 2012, human extinction happened due to a human-made virus. Only people aged 13 and below were not affected by it. At the same time, vampires came into earth and captured children and promised them protection. In exchange for this, the children will willingly give them blood.

Yuichiro "Yuu", Mikaela "Mika" and other kids from the Hyakuya orphanage were taken by the vampires who took them in a vampire city underground called Sanguinem. The vampires refer to humans as "livestock" which Yuu really hates. However, they are given homes, uniforms, tags and formulated food. When they reached the age of 12, they plotted an escape. The plan failed and led Mika to sacrifice himself so that Yuu should survive. When Yuu reached the 'outside', he was taken by the Moon Demon Company: an extermination unit by the Japanese force. Yuu's goal in life was to kill all vampires for killing his family. Unknown to them, Mikaela was turned into a vampire by Krul Tepes, the queen of the vampires. His goal is to get Yuu back.

How will their fated reunion go?



## <<TERMINOLOGIES>>

### <<SERAPH OF THE END>>

With the exception of Guren and Krul, only little is known about the Seraph of the End. However, it is thought to be the cause of the plague eight years ago.

### <<CURSED GEAR>>

Weapons born with a sealed demon. It is the only known weapon that could kill vampires. There are many forms and levels and they all multiply the user's strength. However, a weak-willed user may be possessed and become a demon.

### <<DEMON>>

They used to be vampires. Humans can also turn into a demon if they cannot handle the power of their cursed gear.

### <<FOUR HORSEMEN OF JOHN>>

Despite what they are called, there are more than four and they can be of any shape and form. These monsters appeared after the plague and somehow only attacks humans.

### <<VAMPIRES>>

They used the opportunity of the plague to capture humans as livestock. If they don't drink blood, they can become demons. Also, they use weapons that feed on their blood to strengthen.



## <<GUREN ICHINOSE>>

(voiced by: Yuuichi Nakamura)

Weapon: Mahiru-no-Yo – possession type demon in a form of katana.

He is a Lieutenant Colonel of the Japanese Imperial Demon Army and Commanding Officer of the Moon Demon Company. He was one who found Yuu when he escaped from the vampires. He is known to sleep in meetings and make spontaneous exams.



## <<MOON DEMON COMPANY>>

### <<SHINOA HIRAGI>> <<SQUAD SHINOA>>



(voiced by: Saori Hayami)  
Weapon: Shikama Doji – Possession type demon in a form of large scythe.

She was assigned to look over Yuichiro during Yuichiro's mission to find a friend in school in order to join the Black Demon Company. She is loyal to Guren. She loves to tease people especially Yuichiro.



### <<MITSUBA SANGU>>

(voiced by: Yuka Iguchi)  
Weapon: Tenjiryu – manifestation type demon in a form of a giant battle axe.

Due to the incident that killed her squad, she demands teamwork and cooperation from Yuu and Kimizuki. Despite what she says, she is quite emphatic and would sympathize with her comrades easily. She can be just as playful as Shinoa.



### <<SHIHO KIMIZUKI>>



(voiced by: Kaito Ishikawa)  
Weapon: Kiseki O – possession type demon in a form of twin swords.

Excels in combat fighting and academics. Like Yuu, he does not get along with others and looks down on many people. He has a sister who is ill. His reason for joining the army is to afford her treatment through army funds.

### <<YOICHI SAOTOME>>

(voiced by: Nobuhiko Okamoto)  
Weapon: Gekkoin – manifestation type demon in a form of a large bow.

He is the first friend of Yuu after escaping. He is kind, gentle and avoids conflicts among his friends. His demon resistance is high and even converses with her casually in dreams. He is weak physically but tries to make up for this by training so he could be a dependable member of the squad.



### <<ASURAMARU>>

(voiced by: Hibiku Yamamura)  
Yuu's demon is Asuramaru. She is very playful who at first would always make Yuu dream about his dead family. However, she admires Yuu's intentions and willingness but promises that when his will weakens, she will mercilessly possess him.

## <<GUREN'S SQUAD>>

A squad should always be comprised of five people. Any less could be deadly. The Moon Demon Company is an elite military group within the Vampire Extermination Unit. Under Commander Guren Ichinose, emphasizes teamwork and encourages



### <<SAYURI HANAYORI>>

(voiced by: Atsumi Tanezaki)  
Weapon: unknown - in a form of a sword wrapped in gauze.

Second Lieutenant of the Japanese Imperial Demon Army.

She is a member of Guren's team more a much deeper reason to be revealed in the future. She is also his substitute in class whenever he is slacking off or not around.

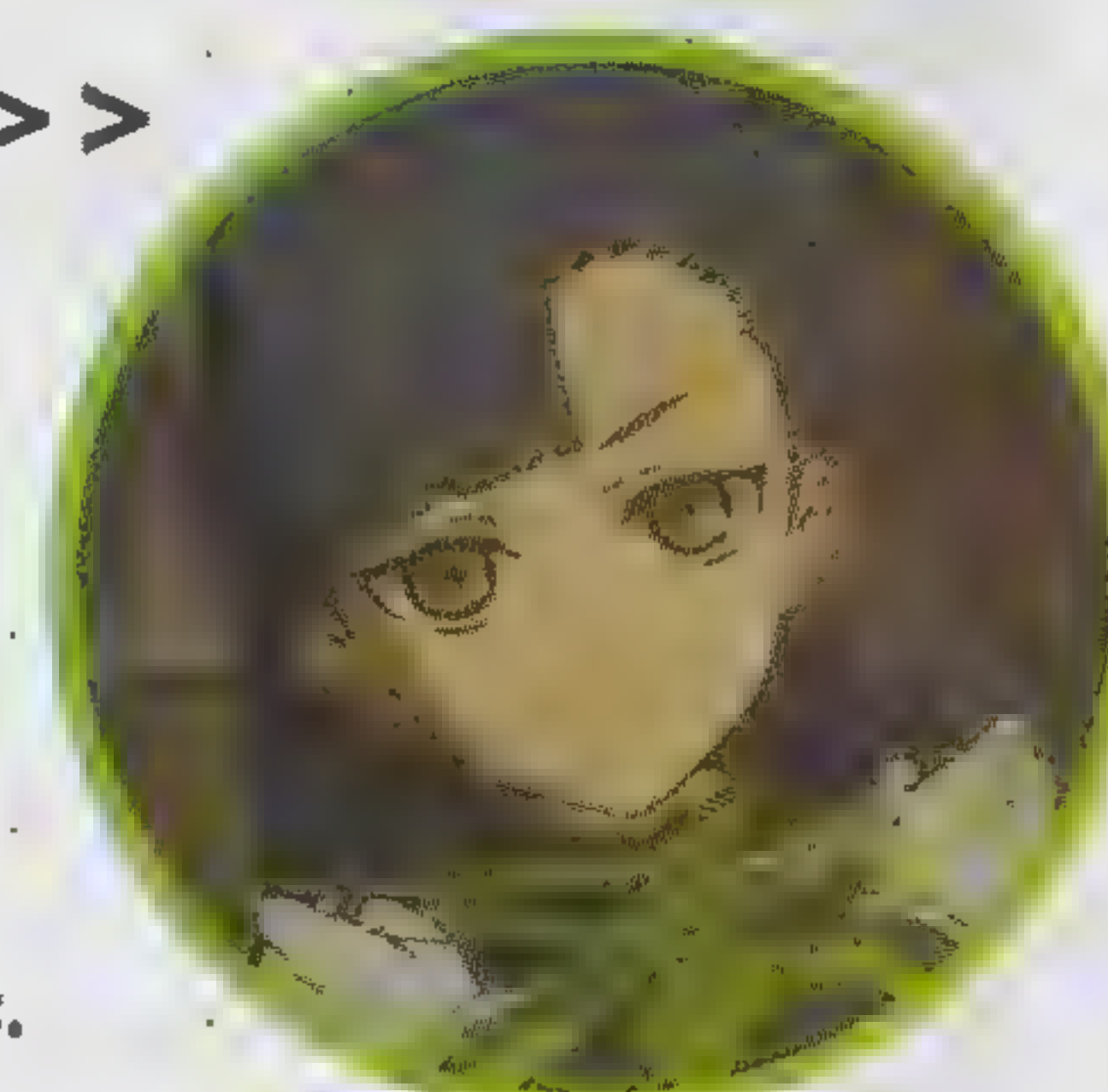
### <<SHIGURE YUKIMI>>

(voiced by: Yui Ishikawa)  
Weapon: unknown

Second Lieutenant.

Her cursed weapon hasn't been revealed yet but she is shown to have incredible battle skills and dexterity. She uses assassination tools against vampires.

She is very straightforward but tends to hide her emotions.



### <<MITO JUJO>>

(voiced by: Yu Shikamura)  
Weapon: unknown. Uses spellcast techniques that borrows power from demons. Looks like gauntlets.

Colonel. A rank higher than Guren.

Like all of the other members in this squad, she is very loyal to Guren. Her family is one of the subordinate houses of the Hiragi family.

She chose to wear the male uniform rather than the female with a skirt.

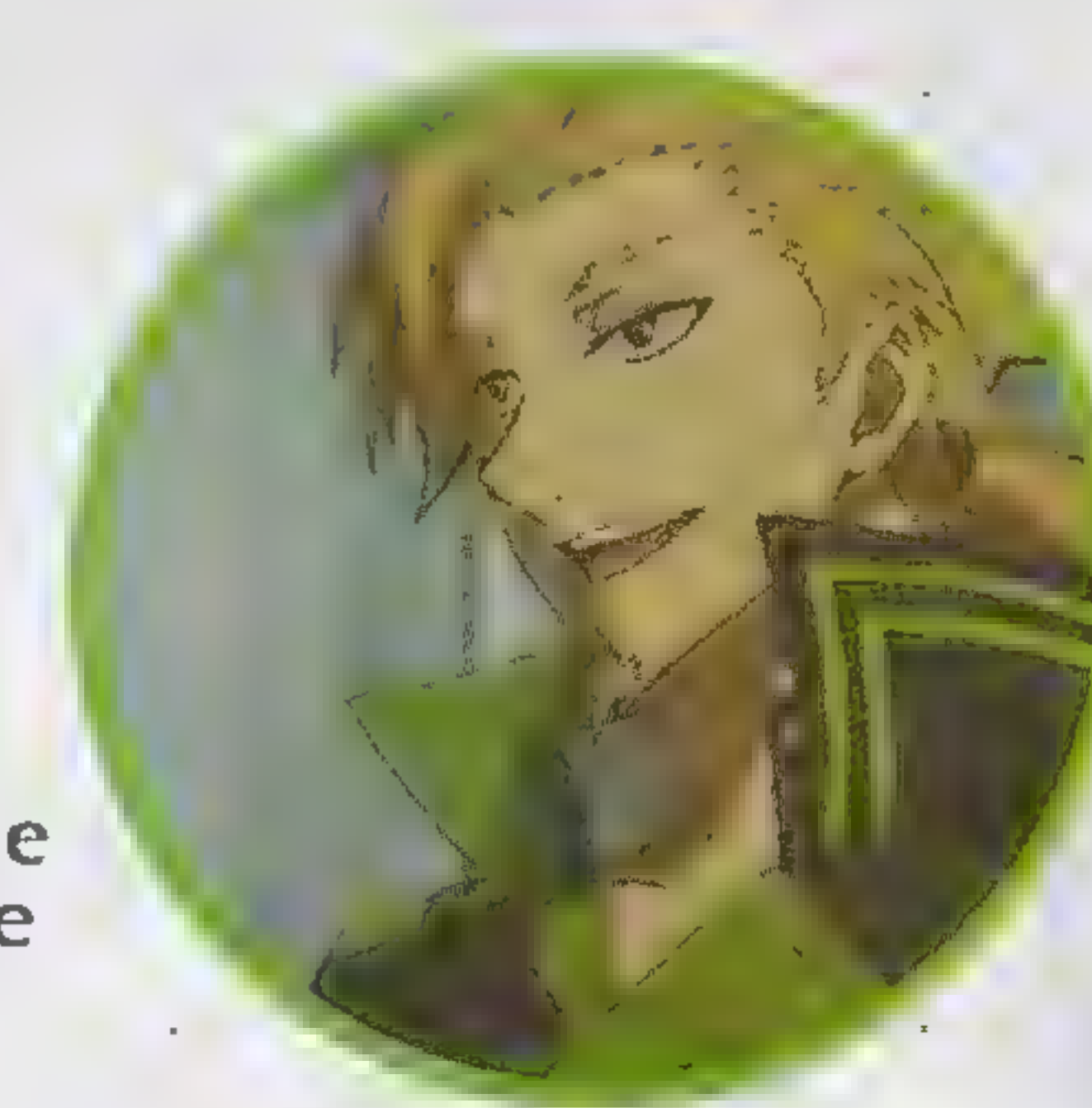


### <<NORITO GOSHI>>

(voiced by: Daisuke Ono)  
Weapon: unnamed illusion-type Cursed Gear in a form of a Japanese smoking pipe.

Colonel. Also a rank higher than Guren.

She supports Guren in the shadows on his illusions. The Goshi's is also one of the subordinate of the Hiragis. He is playful and funny.





## <<VAMPIRES>>

There are many kinds of vampires. The progenitors, nobles and common vampires. The **progenitors** are royalty and are ranked as a statement of power. All progenitors are nobles. **Nobles** are high class vampires who are stronger than the average vampire and wield stronger weapons. **Common vampires** may be weaker but are still far stronger than humans.

A newly-turned vampire can survive off of their sire's blood and will continue to age until drinking human blood. Once the vampire drinks human blood, their biology stops completely, and the vampire grows tremendously in strength and power. By drinking human blood for the first time, a vampire evolves into a **true vampire**.

## <<KRUL TEPES>>

(voiced by: Aoi Yuuki)

The queen of Sanguinem. She is a 3rd Progenitor.

She turned Mika into a vampire against his will but saved him in the process. She has meddled with the Owari no Seraph even though it is forbidden.

Although it doesn't seem like it, she truly wants to reunite Yuu and Mika. At the end of the season, she starts a war against the humans but tells Mika to disappear.



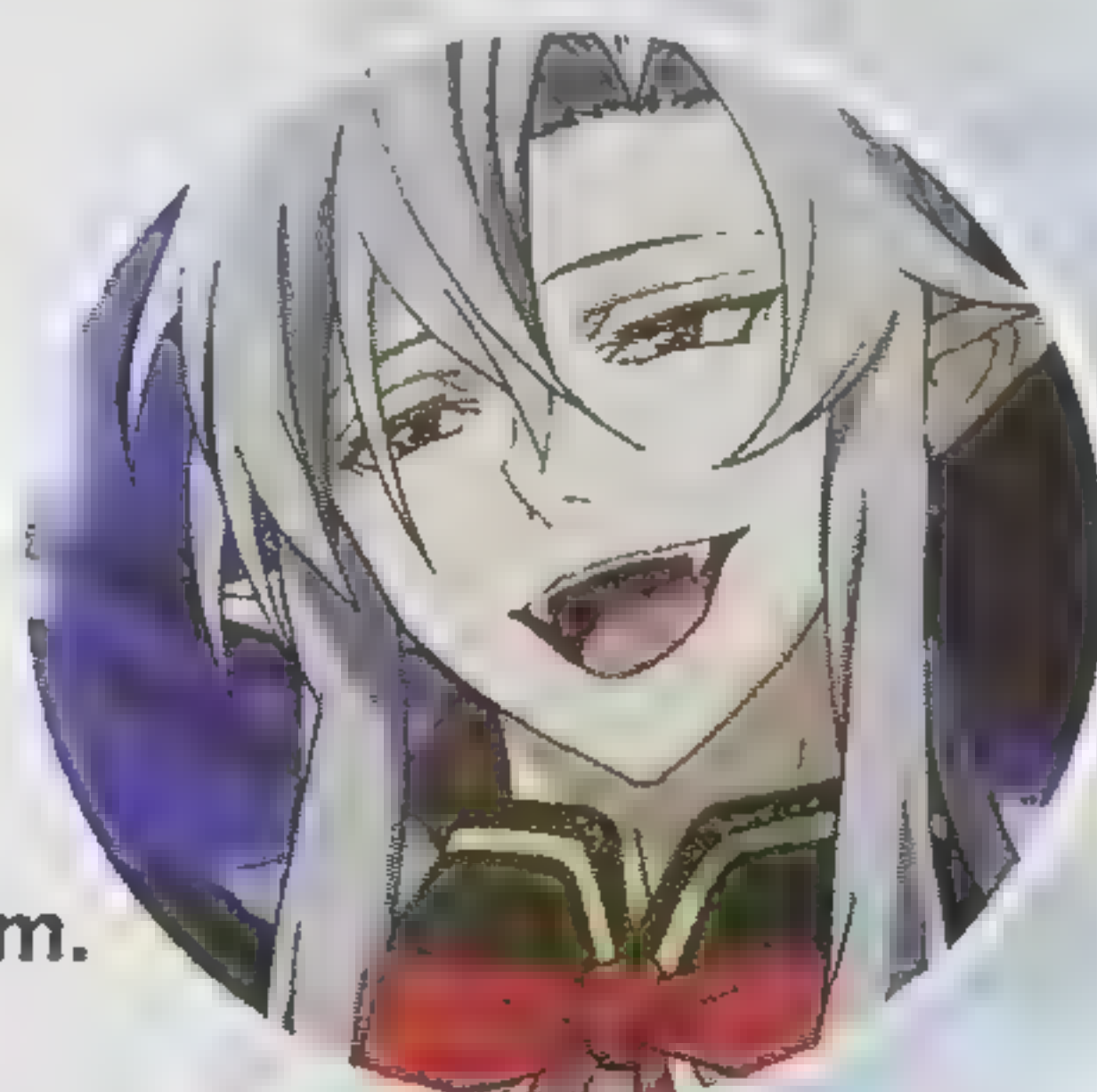
## <<FERID BATHORY>>

(voiced by: Takahiro Sakurai)

He is a seventh progenitor.

He is also the one who killed Yuichiro's family when they attempted to escape from Sanguinem. He is a strong vampire but often orders other vampires to do the work for him. He loves teasing Mikaela that Yuichiro is his princess that needs to be saved.

At the end of the season, he is shown to have a human ally.



## <<CROWLEY EUSFORD>>

(voiced by: Kenichi Suzumura)

A thirteenth Progenitor under Ferid's Faction.

He actually enjoys fighting. He seems to be very confident and remains calm even in a tight spot. He crossed paths with Shinoa's squad and decided that Yuu should be killed for being too powerful.

Crowley would always ask Ferid for an order before doing anything.



## <<LAGUS WELT>>

(voiced by: Takuma Nagatsuka)

He is a common city guard vampire. Because drinking blood directly from humans is forbidden, he drinks while out in battle. He has trouble controlling his thirst and often kills his prey. He was the one who killed Tomoe Saotome, Yoichi's sister.

Owari no Seraph is a Japanese dark fantasy manga that was written by Takaya Kagami and illustrated by Yamato Yamamoto. It was published under Shueisha. In the year 2015, an anime series was released which was written by Hiroshi Seko and directed by Daisuke Tokudo under Wit Studio.

## Music

The opening of the song: X.U. was performed by Sawano Hiroyuki [nZk]:Gemie. The lyrics are in English which gives a unique vibe since we are used to Nihongo. I find it pretty cool because the singer is Japanese, she pronounces some words differently. scaPEGoat was the ending song of the anime series which is also performed by Sawano Hiroyuki [nZk]:Gemie. X.U. and scaPEGoat was released with another song entitled "INSANITY" which was also performed by Sawano Hiroyuki [nZk]:Gemie. These three songs were released into a single by DefSTAR RECORDS last May 20. The music used was composed and arranged by Hiroyuki Sawano.

## Art

The art is pretty cool since the characters are pretty detailed; I like how the detailed lineart is done and the design of the awesome military uniforms and the green lining it has which makes them look like they glow. The background design used is amazing. It is done in painting unlike the typical background the anime series have. While the story has a typical shonen hero trying to do something great and the usual post-apocalyptic trope where vampires and demons threaten human life, Owari has its style.

## Plot

There are secrets within secrets and not everyone is as they seem. You might think that Ferid is the antagonist but it could also be Guren. You might conclude that Mika will one day save Yuu but Yuu might just save Mika. The story puts you into an entire universe where the possibilities are endless. Everyone has a plan of their own but what is sure is that they will always think of each other as "family" (instead of the usual shonen idea of 'nakama')

Owari no Seraph 2 airs on Fall 2015 (no release date announced) where the story will pick up where it left off last season.





The perfect student archetype is a common sight in anime and manga. Those with good looks, top grades, and a lot of talent are what normal students admire and tend to have a huge fanbase. But who would've guessed that our featured character for this issue has a secret lifestyle at home?

Umaru is a high school student who appears to be perfect with beautiful looks, top grades, and excellence in everything she does. However, she transforms into a shut-in at home where she dons a hamster-like hoodie, acts lazy, eats junk food, and is obsessed with playing video games, reading manga and watching anime. She moved in to Taihei's apartment a year prior to the series. Taihei feels responsible for letting Umaru develop her extreme laziness and sudden interest in anime, manga and games during her first year under his care.

Whenever Umaru wants a new game or a copy of JUMP, she pesters Taihei to buy it for her and will throw tantrums if he refuses. Despite Umaru's childish and

selfish acts, Taihei knows that this is his sister's way of showing affection to him. As the series progresses, Umaru's other personalities help her become friends with her female classmates Kirie Motoba and Sylphynford Tachibana; both of whom turn out to be little sisters of Taihei's coworkers.

#### Alias #1: Komaru

When Kirie Motoba saw Umaru in her indoor persona, Umaru introduced herself to Kirie as her little sister named "Komaru". As Komaru, she discovers that her classmate is so shy that she can only talk to children, which is why Kirie appears to be glaring at people.

#### Alias #2: UMR

In this persona, Umaru is hailed as the strongest gamer in the prefecture. She wears a cap and a hat to keep her classmate, Sylphynford Tachibana, from discovering her true identity. After indirectly beating her in a fighting game tournament, Sylphy now develops a one-sided rivalry towards UMR and suggests to team up in-order to defeat Umaru.

# FANTASY QUEST

AN AUGUST WEARING

OCTOBER 24, 2015 AT FERNWOOD GARDENS  
(VIP DAY) - For VIP ticket holders only

OCTOBER 25, 2015 AT FERNWOOD GARDENS  
(EVENT PROPER)



Liui Aquino  
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Special Guest from Philippines

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COPLAY NETWORK  
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## REVIEWS

# The Powerhouse Student Council

By lizac 3.0

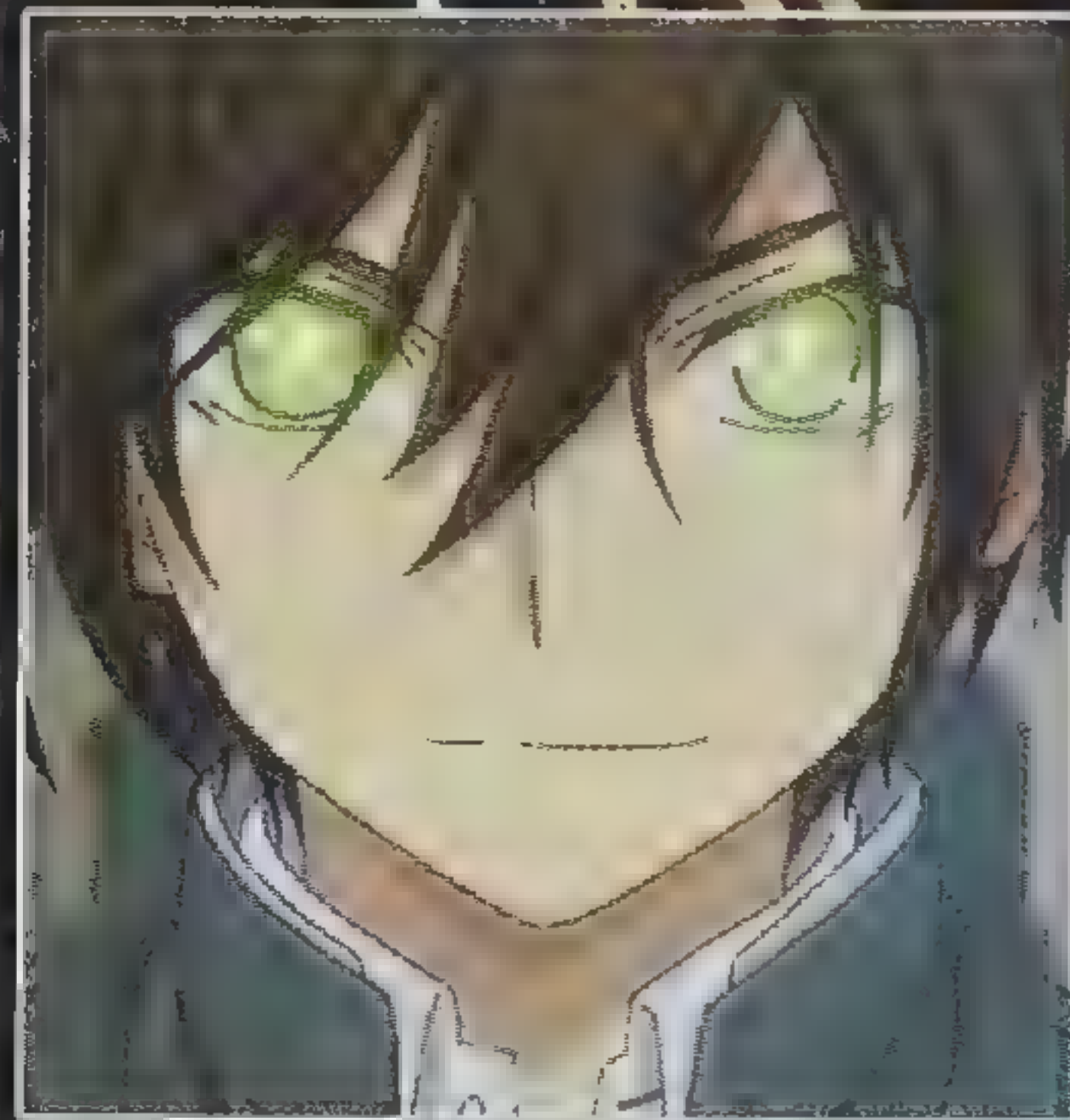
## CHARLOTTE

What would you do if you have supernatural abilities? This is perhaps a clichéd question, and some might express their desire to put their powers to good use. However, these may be abused considering human nature which is discontentment. Especially when it's teenagers who have them, these powers might be taken advantage of because of their still raw and muddled minds toward life.

Yuu Otosaka is one of those students who abuse their superpowers. Yuu has the ability to possess a body in five seconds, and unbeknownst to many, he uses this to cheat in school. In the eyes of others, he is a role model because of his good performance in academics. But deep within, he is just a cheater. He also uses this ability to lure in his crush by saving her from an accident he initially caused. Yuu then attracts the attention of **Hoshinoumi Academy Student Council** who has superpowers themselves. They are a group of students always searching for adolescents with superpowers and putting them into custody. Yuu was later on proved to be using his power in vain, thus gets transferred to Hoshinoumi Academy together with other youngsters of his kind.

**Charlotte** is originally an on-going manga written by Jun Maeda and illustrated by Haruka Komowata, as published by ASCII Media Works. A 13-episode anime under the animation studio P.A. works is being aired in different networks at the present. It has gained immense popularity for the past few months, having been on top of Japan Trending Topics on Twitter for each of its episode.

Charlotte is a good anime where anime fans can learn lessons from different people, and unexpected situations that teenagers are confronted with. Even financial and family problems are tackled in this anime. It is quite similar to everyday life and mostly it's the superpowers that make all the difference. Hence, it is a fascinating anime with the real and supernatural combined, giving anime enthusiasts the best of both worlds.



## Six + One?

By lizac 3.0

## ROKKA NO YUUSHA

Legends say that when demons awakened from the depths of darkness, and turn the world into a living hell, the Goddess of Fate will select six heroes and give them the power to save the world.

It is always six that are chosen. And for this reason, they are known as the Brave of the Six Flowers.

It has been *three hundred years* since the last time the Braves were chosen. However, when the Demon God awakened, there were SEVEN.

Adlet Mayer is a self proclaimed strongest-man. After trying to prove this by interrupting a tournament, he is imprisoned. During his imprisonment, the Demon God awoken. It was also in this moment that he saw an apparition of a flower and a seal appeared on the back of his hand.

He had been chosen to be a Brave.



The seal is an indication that the Goddess of Fate has chosen him to be one of the six Braves. He goes on a long journey with fellow Brave, **Nashetania**, the princess of Piena. They have to meet the other four Braves at the gate, only to be surprised that there are in fact, seven of them. Is this the work of the Demon God?

**Rokka: Braves of the Six Flowers** or **Rokka no Yuusha** is originally an on-going light novel series written by **Ishio Yamagata** and illustrated by **Miyagi**. It is published by Shueisha which also bears the rights to publish the manga of the same name. Meanwhile, its anime adaptation under studio Passione started airing last July 2015 with 13 episodes.

The animation of **Rokka no Yusha** puts emphasis on the elements of a fantasy world. Since the characters have different weapons, tricks, and abilities, these are all showcased in the anime astoundingly. The details of the scenery are amazing as well, from the green fields to the starry skies, and even the character design of the enemies. DO NOT BE FOOLED. **Rokka** began as a shonen, adventure anime but it is actually MYSTERY. Imagine Detective Conan or Phoenix Wright but with a fantasy and adventure only as setting. There is more screen time allotted to finding out who is the "seventh" than actually fighting the Demon God. The characters each has their own depth and personalities that will make you as audience wonder who is ally and who is enemy.

Follow their stories and try to find out who is the seventh.





# The Red Hair of Fate

Akagami no Shirayuki-hime

by Yami

Having something unique within us makes us stand out among others. It could be a good thing or a bad thing. It could also lead us in being popular and special among people because of that uniqueness. This could also lead us into meeting new people but, whatever happens, we must always remember to be ourselves and not to change the way we used to be.

Shirayuki is known among the citizens of Tanburn due to her unique hair color which is bright red. Added to that, she also a skilled herbalist which made her really popular at the town. Even the first prince of Tanburn; Raji Shenazard to become his concubine which made her decide to cut her hair and leave the town.

She met Zen Wistalia in the next town who is later revealed to be the second prince of Clarines. At first, Zen didn't believe that Shirayuki will heal her however, in order to prove herself as a herbalist, she also wounded herself and then applied the medicine which Zen believed. The eventually became close to each other. Shirayuki chose to live in Clarines and study more about herbs and medicine since Clarines is advanced when it comes to that. Will the closeness of Zen and Shirayuki will be more or do they only see each other as close friends?

Akagami no Shirayuki-hime is a Japanese manga written by Sorata Akizuki in the year 2006 which was published by Hakusensha. It was adapted in an anime last July 2015 which was written by Deko Akao and directed Masahiro Andou under Bones.

There are many fantasy shoujo animes out there but Akagami no Shirayuki-hime stands out among them. One is you'll notice how Shirayuki's character has been made. Most shoujo main characters are being loud unlike her. She's calm and she knows what she's doing. I also like how Zen's character development progresses. He has become attached to Shirayuki and he will be there if she is in trouble plus he's eager and motivated to do her duties as a prince because of Shirayuki. If you're looking for an romance anime then I highly recommend this one. Their interactions with other; you'll find it interesting and there are moments that will make you squeal.

# BENRIYA (n.) handymen; will do any job

Gangsta.

by kandy



Inside Ergastulum's 8th district is an unlikely pair working as Benriya: gigolo Worick Arcangelo and the deaf Tagged Nicolas Brown. Tagged are children and descendants of those who used the Celebrier drug. They have enhanced abilities thanks to the drug.

While on a job, the two meet Alex Benedetto, a prostitute working for their target. She came from outside Ergastulum and has no idea of what the city actually is. The duo take her in as their secretary.

The anime is an adaptation of GANGSTA., a manga written and illustrated by Koshke which currently has seven volumes. The anime is under Manglobe and has twelve episodes.

The music was the first thing that I noticed when I first watched it.

The opening, "Renegade" by STEREO DIVE FOUNDATION is very catchy and upbeat while the ending, performed by Annabel, is "Country of the Night" is solemn while still keeping up with the energy of the anime.

The art is my favorite this season.

You don't get hunks like this every season. Kudos to the art department.

The otaku who grew up with Sailormoon and Yu Yu Hakusho are now in their 20s and are very much ready for a mature anime like this. Learn what is inside the famous city of Ergastulum and how these two do 'every' job.



# Crossing Over

By James

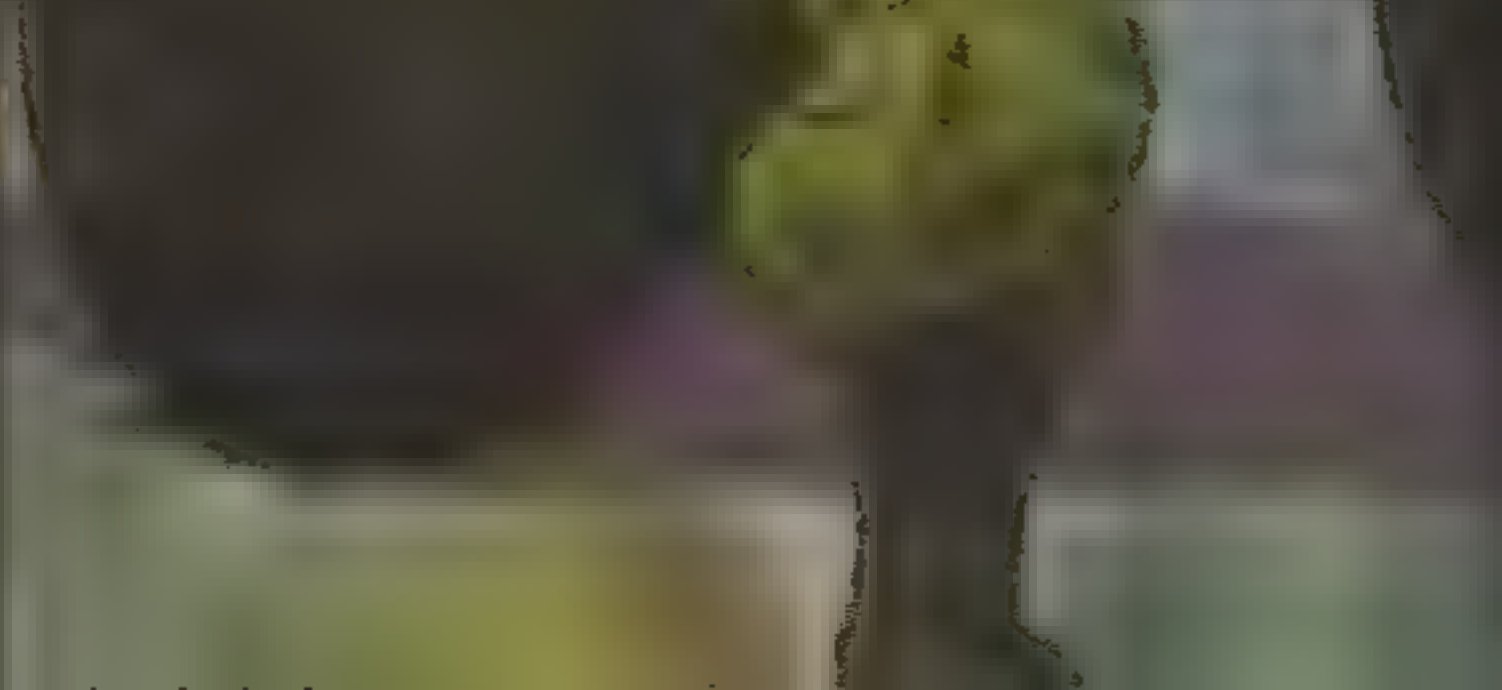
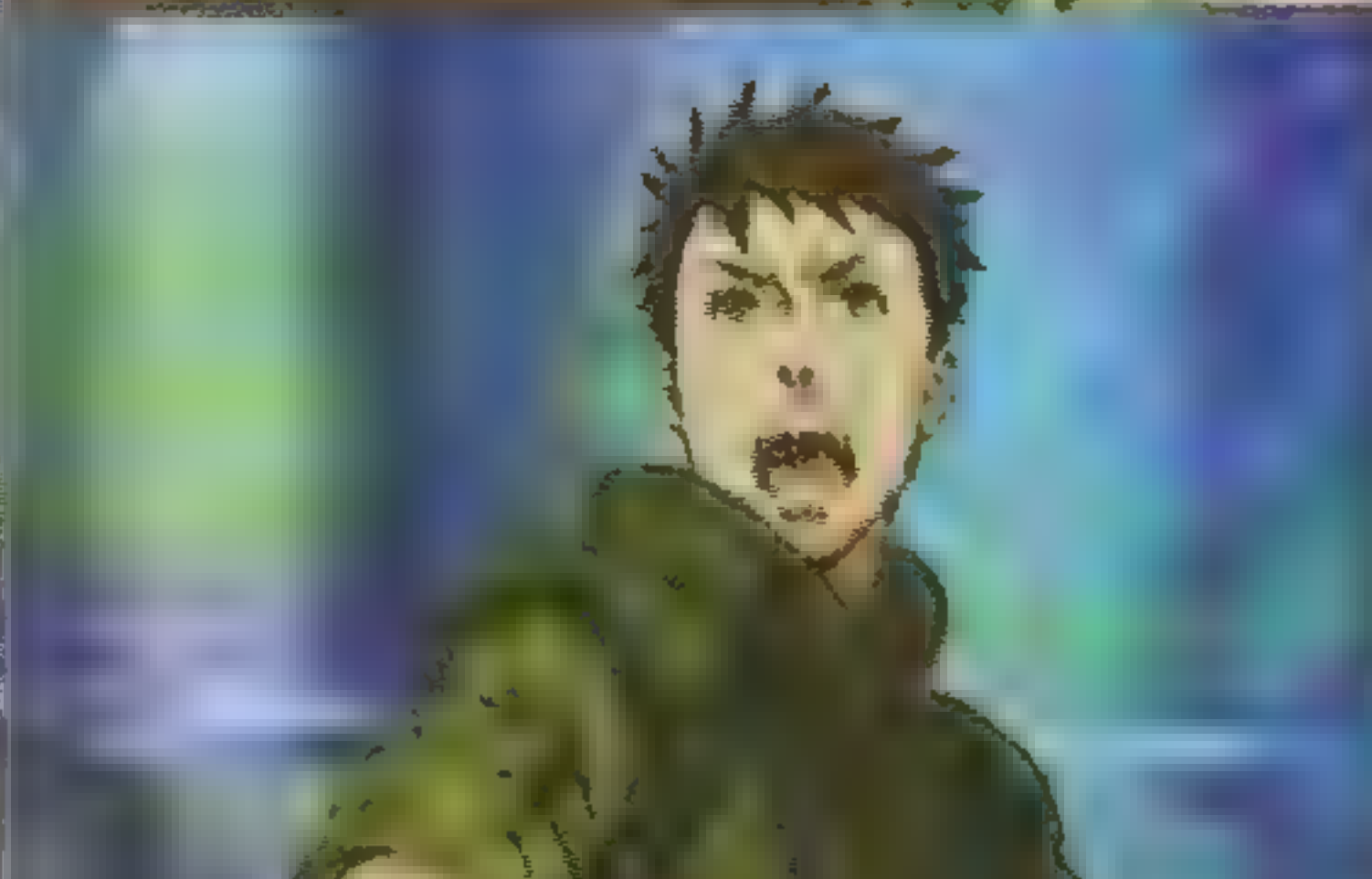
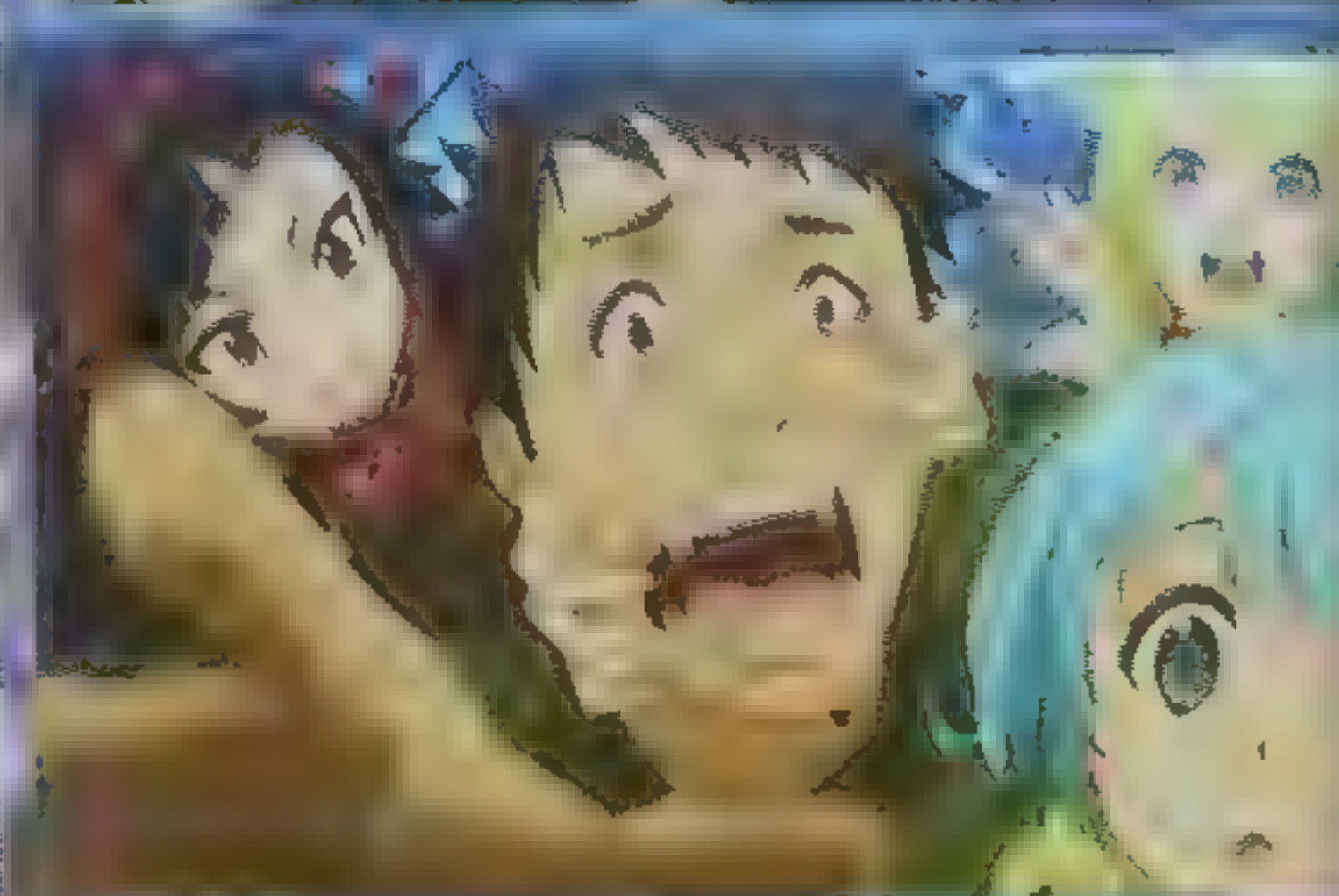
## GATE: JIEITAI KANOCHI NITE, KAKU TATAKAERI

You've seen this before in many works of fiction: when extraterrestrial forces comes to Earth, the courageous and dedicated military that always goes up against the threat first, only to suffer massive casualties because of the enemies' overwhelming power; then the hero comes along, effortlessly vanquishing the threat, making the military seem useless. It's so common that it already seems like an unspoken rule already, but some rules are made to be broken. Gate: Jieitai Kanochi nite, Kaku Tatakaeri would be one of those to defy it.

On a fine August day in the year 20XX, a portal that connects Earth to another realm, opened. On a particular fine day, all **Youji Itami**, a 33-year old otaku, wanted to do was check out and purchase merchandise from a doujinshi exhibit and sale. Unfortunately, what he's been looking forward to has been cancelled due to an attack of creatures – dragons, men in armor, beast-folk, and orcs – in the district. There could've been a great loss of lives, but thanks to Youji's brave, prudent, and swift action, many have been saved, making him a hero. However, that is only the beginning. The gate not only remained open, but also has become an important place of interest in the eyes of Japan, so the government decided to see what lies beyond it. Youji, being one of the few who have actual firsthand experience with creatures from the gate, gets included in the expedition. For the world, it's a harrowing yet important scientific discovery. For him, it's going to be a dangerous but exciting adventure – and a chance to see if catgirls do exist.

It's not every anime that you see an otaku protagonist that unabashedly confesses his love for all things Japan-geek yet manages to be completely functional and reliable (save his few awkward quirks when interacting with other people) – such a combination makes the perfect protagonist in an anime that involves the military and mythical creatures. Another commendable trait of the anime is that it doesn't rely on the protagonist having powers and being "the chosen one" to save the world. Instead, it has a practical take on the genre, making guns, artillery, and missiles just as effective as magic and special weapons.

It doesn't take a special ability to see that Gate is one-of-a-kind. With a unique protagonist and a familiar premise that was turned upside down, it's a must-watch for this season.



# Stay the Dark Side

By James

## OVERLORD

You definitely don't want to be the bad guy because they always lose and are easily forgotten. That, however, doesn't apply if you're stuck in the world of a once-super-popular MMORPG. It's good to be evil in one of the season's most distinct anime: Overlord.

In the year is 2138, twelve years after the release of once immensely popular Dive Massively Multiplayer Online Roleplaying Game entitled **Yggdrasil**, the game servers were being shut down. On the last day of the servers' operation, villain hero **Momonga**, leader of non-human evil-aligned guild **Ainz Ooal Gown**, decided to log in one last time for the sake of nostalgia until the servers officially close – except they didn't. The game world didn't shut down, and he couldn't log out. Knowing right away that something was wrong, he decided to investigate his situation and arrived at one conclusion: he is trapped in either the same game that has undergone many changes or an entirely new place that resembles Yggdrasil. Either way, wherever Momonga may be unable to get out of, he already knows what he must do: rediscover and rule this same old brand new realm.

The virtual reality action-adventure genre has already been done to death, and Overlord is the latest one to join the saturated category, making it another forgettable and overshadowed title in the long run. That's how the show seems at first glance, at least. But if you actually watch, the show actually a lot of differences in theme and execution from the cookie-cutter examples of the genre that make the show so unique. In fact, there's almost nothing like it – a MMORPG anime with an antagonist protagonist.

In addition, the other thing that sets Overlord apart is that instead of focusing on the lead's relationship with other characters, it instead highlights his interactions with NPCs that have become sentient – a rather interesting take on the subgenre. And while Momonga roleplays being bad and his minions actually are evil, not to mention that our villain hero is stuck in an MMORPG, the show keeps a mostly comedic tone, playing evil for laughs and paints the fact that the hero is trapped in an unfamiliar world in a very light tone.

If you want a fresh, new, seemingly dark but actually hilarious reiteration of the "I'm stuck in an MMO" trope, dedicate your anime-viewing hours to Overlord – you won't regret it!





## GAMER'S ARENA

# FAIRYZE!

by Reikisha

Long ago, a dreadful war between the Goddess and the Vile God took place in a distant land. Because they are equally matched, they both created a large number of weapons imbued with their godly powers for humans to use. Eventually, the deities sealed each other away into the great unknown. Fast forward to modern times, the leftover weapons from the ancient times— now known as “Furies”, are highly sought by warriors who call themselves as “Fencers”.

**This is the story of two Fencers, Fang and Tiara, who got caught up in the conflict between the deities of ancient times by a strange coincidence, forever altering the course of their destiny.**

Compile Heart, known for its flagship game Hyperdimension Neptunia series, proudly presents its unique brand of role-playing games with slapstick comedy attached to it.

No CPUs breaking the fourth wall and monster girls fighting for physical affection this time though.



**Fairy Fencer F** is a 2013 fantasy RPG under Compile Heart's Galapagos RPG brand for the PlayStation 3. It features Yoshitaka Amano as the concept artist, Nobue Uematsu as composer, Tsunako for the character designs, Toshiki Inoue as screen writer and the “Neptunia Team” for the game dev. The game was first released in Japan on October 10, 2013, followed by North America and Europe on September 16 and 19 last year. A PC port of the game was released by Steam on August 4, 2015.

An expanded version titled **Fairy Fencer F: Advent Dark Force** is scheduled to be released sometime this 2015 for the PlayStation 4.

## GAMEPLAY

Fairy Fencer F uses an evolved version of Hyperdimension Neptunia's battle system. Each battle takes place in a small circular field. The turn order is determined by the MOV value of both allies and enemies. You can perform combos by assigning techniques to the triangle, square and circle buttons. Up to four techniques can be performed in one turn and additional techniques can be assigned as you unlock more combo slots.

On top of being able to use common battle commands like using magic and items, each character has their own special command. However, there are certain risks when using them.

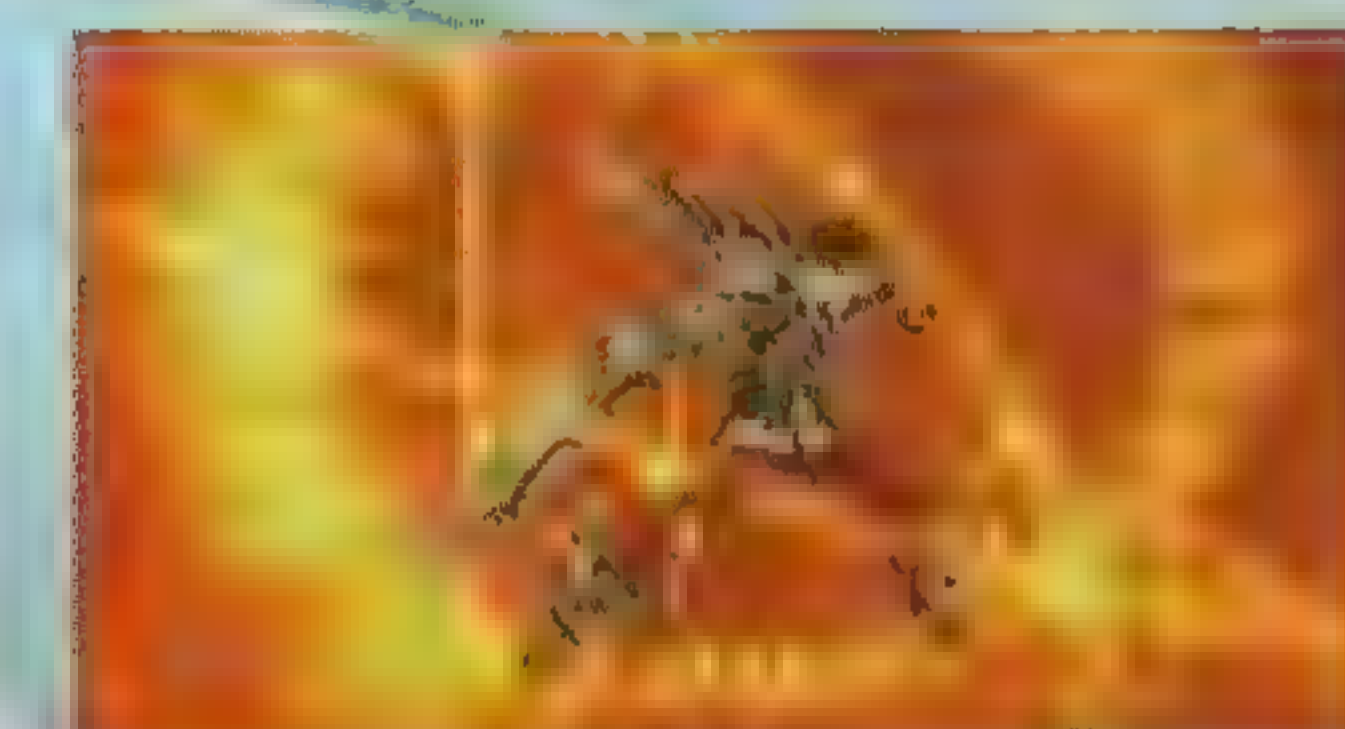
The Fairize system is very similar to Hyperdimension Neptunia's CPU transformation. When a Fencer's bond with their fairy partner becomes stronger, they gain access to a much more powerful combat form known as the “Fury Form”.

## REVIEW

Even though fantasy-themed RPGs are very common lately, Fairy Fencer F is able to give its players a brand new fantasy RPG experience by incorporating Neptunia's formula of success. With Tsunako and Nobuo Uematsu in the development team, the game's aesthetics will definitely live up to your expectations. The game's battle system combines turn-based strategy and hack-&-slash, making small skirmishes more enjoyable and less repetitive.

In the PS3 version of Fairy Fencer F, the frame rate issues made gamers think twice about playing it. But now that the game has been ported into the PC, you can now enjoy playing Fairy Fencer F in glorious 60FPS.

If ever you're looking for a new game to play, let Fairy Fencer F take you on a journey to vanquish the Vile God. Form an unbreakable bond with your fairy partner and defeat any adversary with the power of Fairize!







# The Return to Magic High School

By John Robert Lim

Magic has now become a product of the advances in human technology, one harnessed by technological devices called CAD. Such is the world of Mahouka Koukou no Rettousei.

**Mahouka Koukou no Rettousei: Lost Zero** is a mobile card battle/RPG hybrid by Square Enix released in 2014. To this day, the game is going strong, armed with an original story written by Tsutomu Satou, the original light novel's writer, the game promises to give both fans and curious gamers an introduction into the world of Mahouka.

In **Lost Zero**, the player takes control of a protagonist who enters First High School with his sister Mayaka Zeronon, both representatives of the Zero family. In no time at all, the two become acquainted with the students of First High, which include the Tatsuya and Miyuki Shiba, as well as their schoolmates. Ever since this pivotal event, mysterious clones of the characters, known as Minus Parade, began surfacing and orchestrating chaos in different locations. As the characters move in to confront their clones, questions begin opening up. What is the identity of the Minus Parade, and how are they connected to the hidden secrets of the Zero family and Mayaka's sealed memories?

As you would expect, **Lost Zero** features a lot of magic-based fighting, done in the style of real-time turn-based mechanics. Characters all have a timer which acts as their cooldown gauge for attacks or special moves. It is simple yet complex, as the order of attacks and management of the special move gauge allow new ways of approaching each battle. A battle could become easier or harder depending on how and who you decide to attack with, and which enemies you decide to prioritize.



However, the true appeal of **Lost Zero** is in its unexpected depth in modifying the characters. The game allows the player to play as most of the series' characters, organized into teams of four members. Each character has their own specialties and abilities in battle, represented by different in-game collectible cards. Depending on the equipped card, someone like Miyuki can be made to fight either as a mage raining destruction on hordes of opponents or a fighter specialized in disrupting a single enemy's attacks. As an added extra, the cards showcase the characters in different outfits. That's why there exists a collection factor in obtaining them, especially if there's someone you especially wanted to see in a different attire such as swimsuit or Halloween costume.



Overall, **Lost Zero** is really intricate for a mobile game. Besides the game itself, the app also has a nifty feature that occasionally updates the player on announcements regarding the light novel series or manga. Despite the language barrier, only a few minutes of tinkering with the options is needed to get used to and learn the gameplay. A fun and constantly-updating game with various extra events, this is a great game to have on anyone's smartphones.

## How to install:

1. Go to [apk.qoo-app.com](http://apk.qoo-app.com) and download the apk file for QooApp
2. Install QooApp in your android device
3. Launch QooApp, and look for "The Irregular at Magic High School Lost Zero"
4. Download the game, install, and have fun!

## Tips and Tricks:

**Experiment with your cards and team combinations**

□ Every character in the game has access to multiple versions of themselves via cards. Some work especially well with another specific character, while others might allow the character to perform a different role in battle by changing his abilities. Feel free to play around with your units' cards and formations and see which combinations work the best.

## Learn how to use attack chains

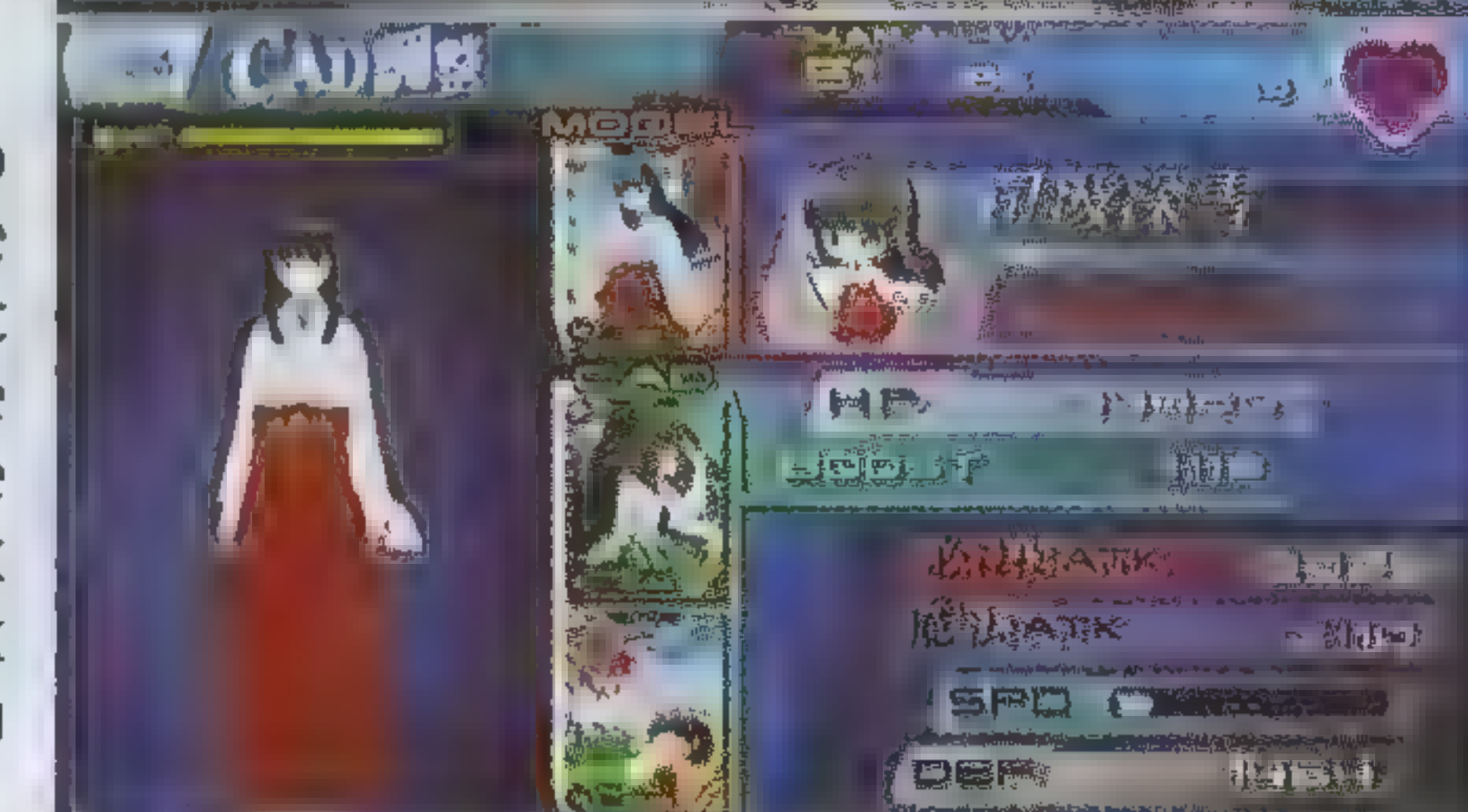
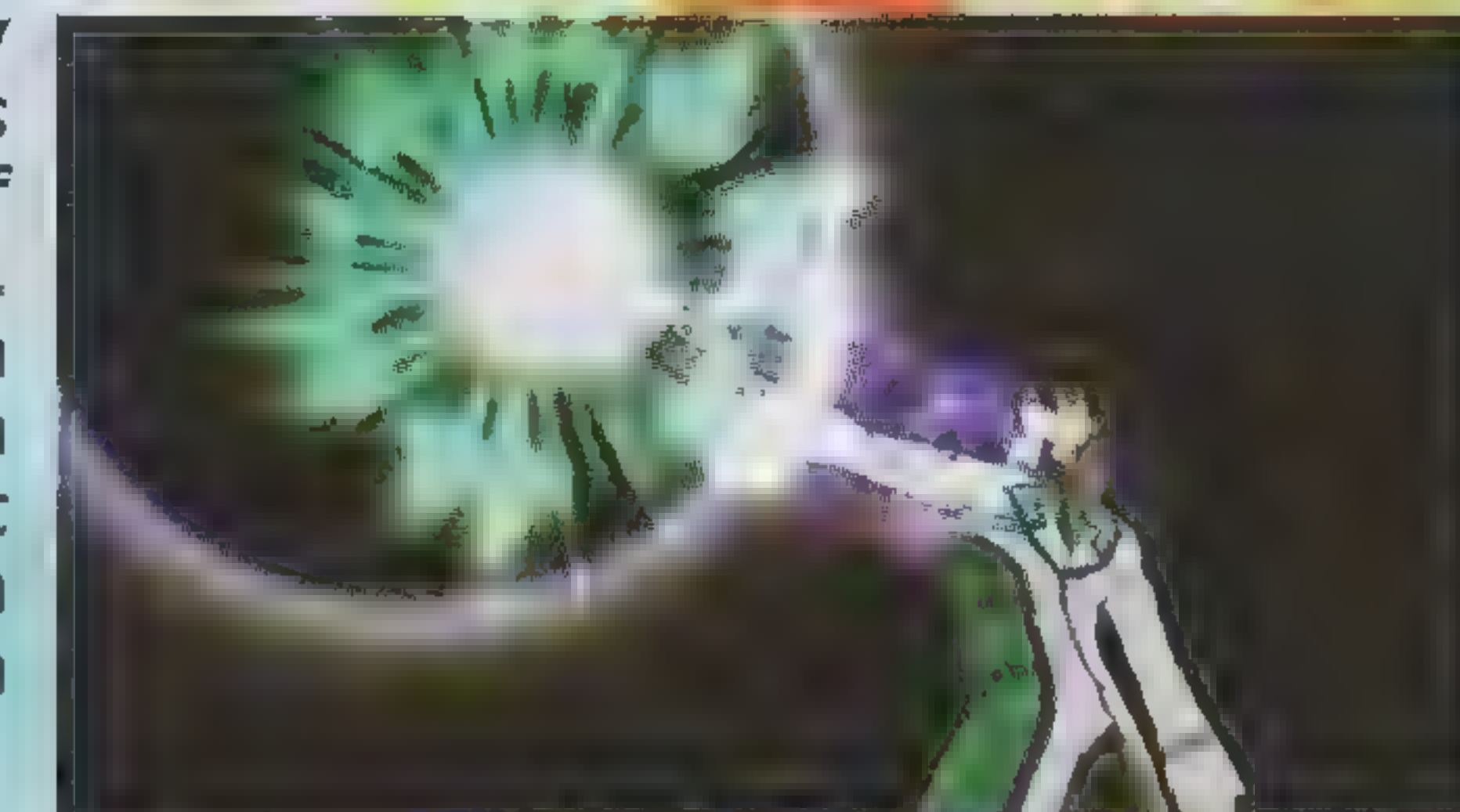
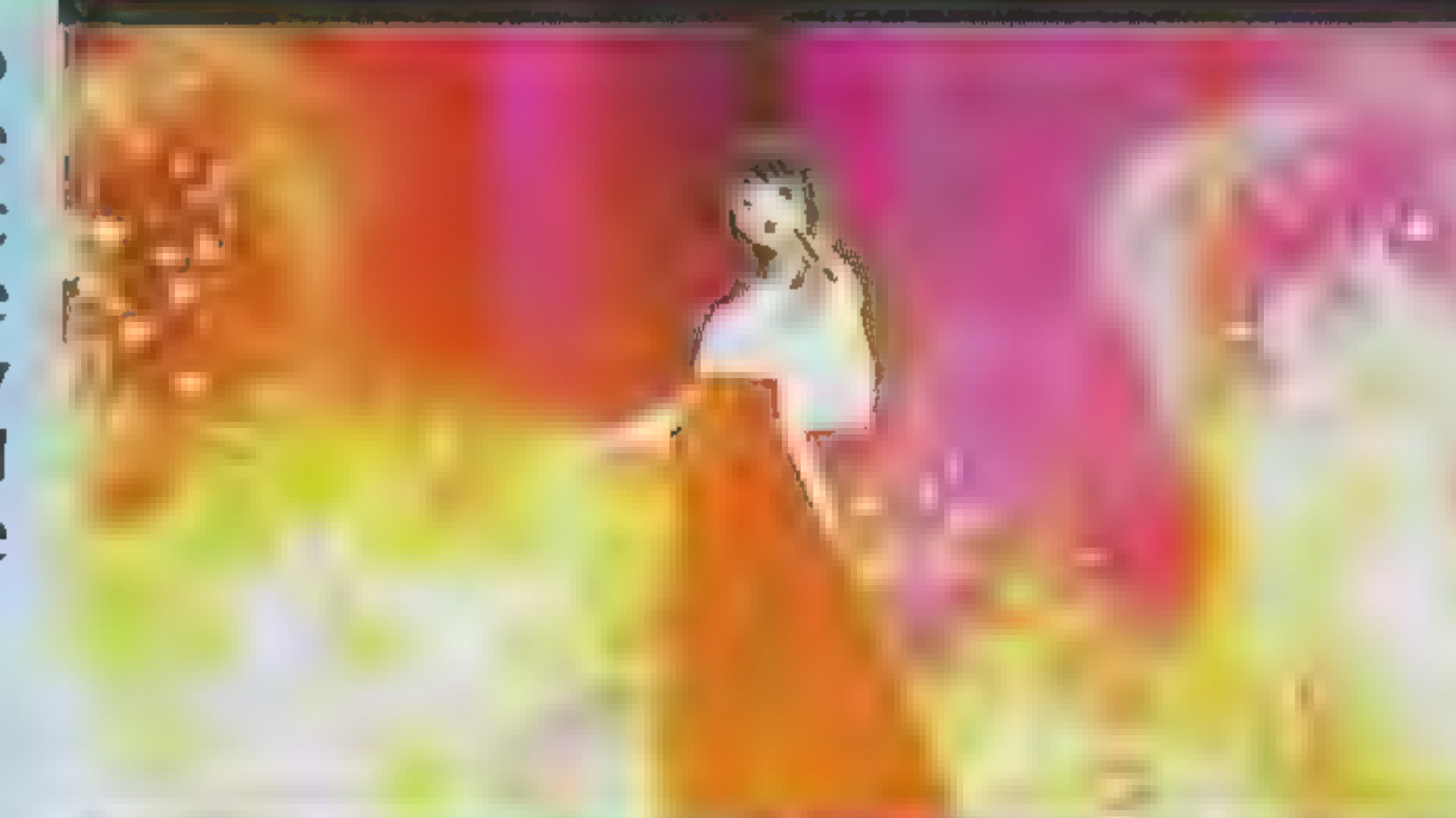
□ Abilities aside, chain attacks (done by tapping at least two ready-to-attack characters in quick succession) are the easiest way of accumulating charges for the Special gauge. Sometimes, you might want to hold off on attacking with characters in order to wait for an ally to chain attack with. On paper, you might seem to be wasting precious seconds of a character's turn, but the payoff is often worth it.

## Know the opposition

□ A crucial aspect of **Lost Zero** battles is the elemental aspect of combat. Physically-oriented fighters like Leo might struggle more with magic-oriented enemies than someone like Mayumi or Shizuku. Knowing which enemies in the opposition to prioritize and which units to attack with will lead to an easier time in those long, drawn-out stages.

## Join special events

□ Every few weeks, the game opens up special stages. These goals for these stages are easy enough to learn and offer chances at stronger cards. Every now and then, these events also provide crossover cards, so if you're curious about how the characters would look like in *Final Fantasy* or *To Aru Majutsu no Index* getup, don't miss the chance to join and have a chance to grab those cards!







by Mikelle

Gamindustri is a world protected by four goddesses who watches over their own regions: Planeptune, Lowee, Lastation and Leanbox. The goddesses were involved in a long strife with each other known as the Console Wars but many years had passed since then and peace was finally brought to Gamindustri by the four goddess that served as the divine aegis. No one could have anticipated the arrival of a new enemy and it comes with the name of 'boredom'.

Compile Heart first announced the game at the 2014 Dengeki Stage Event. Unlike the preceding turn-based rpg games, Hyperdimension Neptunia U: Action Unleashed is a hack and slash action game which was developed by Tamsoft, famous for developing Senran Kagura and OneeChanbara games. The game is a spin-off the the Hyperdimension Neptunia franchise that is currently exclusive for Playstation Vita.

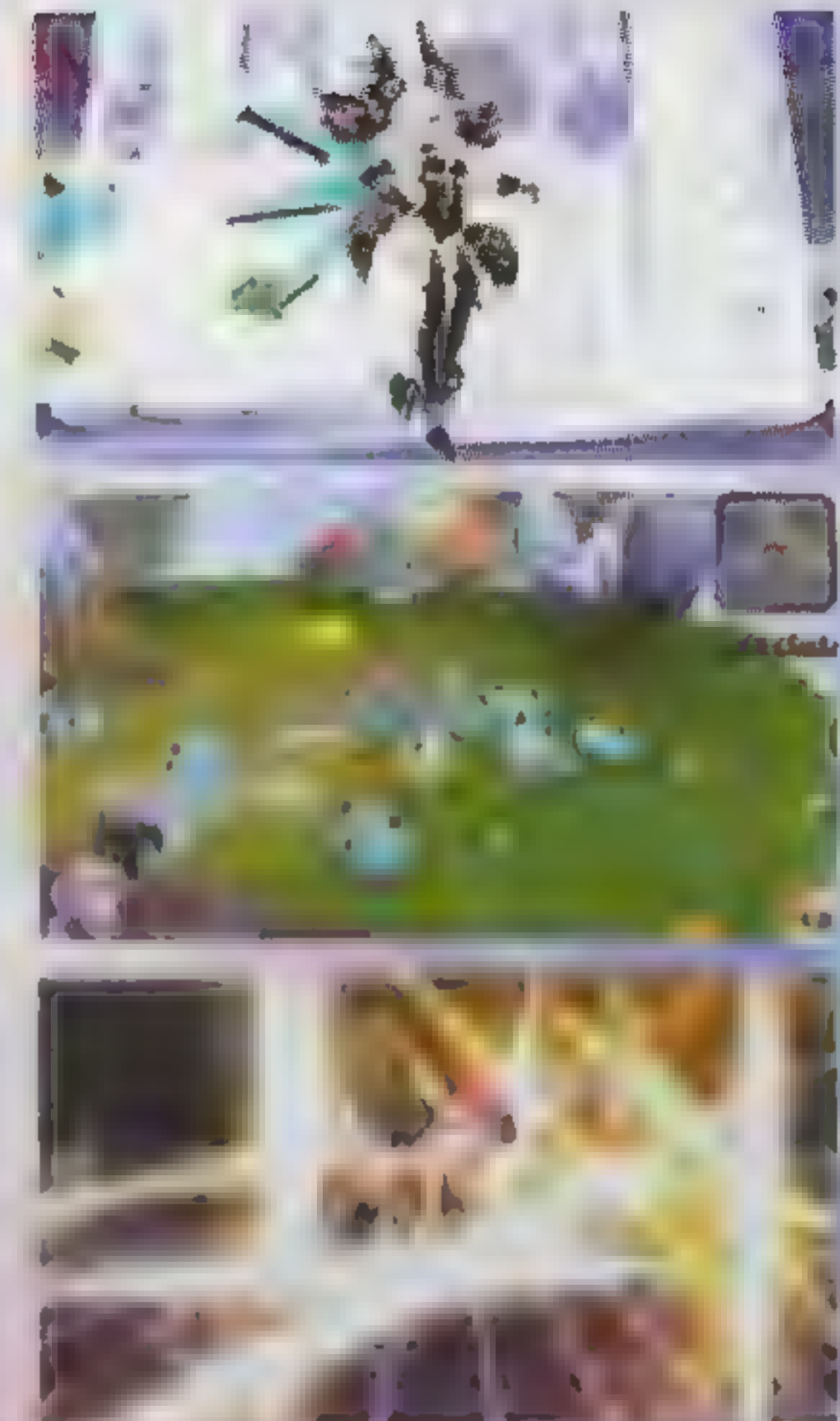
The four goddess returns along with their sisters as playable characters in the game. Two new playables are also introduced and were based from Japanese gaming magazines, Famitsu who is based from a gaming review magazine and Dengekiko representing the Dengeki Playstation magazine.

Players can pick up to two of their favorite characters before choosing a quest and entering a specific dungeon. They can switch between the two characters they prefer

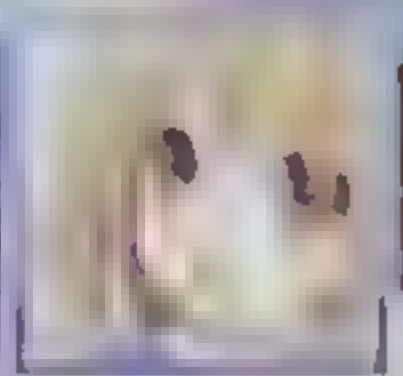
depending on the given situation. Most objectives consist of defeating enemies or item gathering though it might prove challenging at first since this game is unlike other Neptunia games. The game also features costume durability which is very important since it could turn the tides in both a positive and a negative way. The player must defeat hordes of powerful monsters in order to emerge victorious all the while minding their HP, SP and EXE gauges.

Like previous games, each character has the ability to transform and in doing so multiplies your character's base stats, visible changes in the move patterns and improves their skills. The best way to master the game is to know the strength and weakness of your team in order to cope up with any given situation.

The game is now available and has been released in North America in May 2015. Avid fans of the franchise will certainly would pick the game from the store shelves in order to follow their favorite goddess or goddess candidate.



## CHARACTERS:

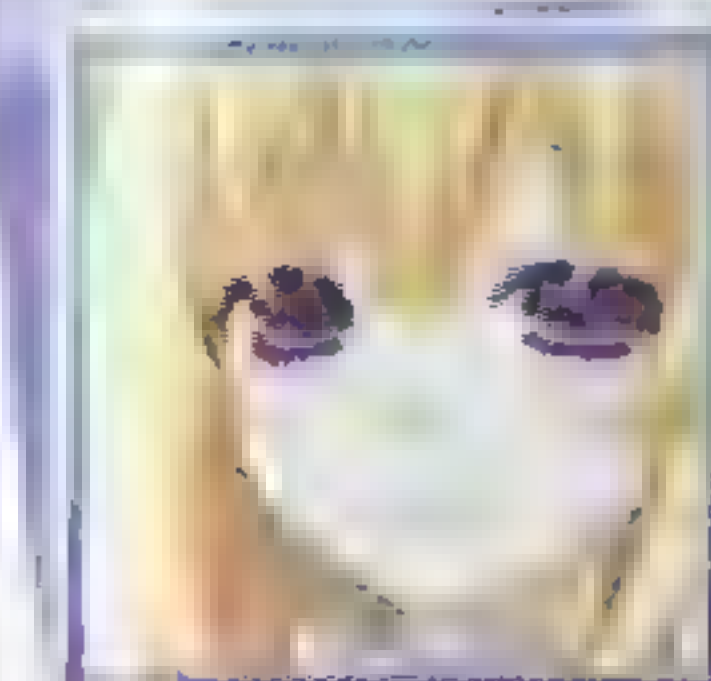


### NEPTUNE – Purple Heart

Neptune is the CPU of Planeptune, the Land of Purple Progress and is the main protagonist of the franchise. She is the most happy-go-lucky of all the characters and is also one of the strongest. Despite how she looks when she is in her human form, she appears quite noble and dignified in her goddess form. Her sister Nepgear mostly picks up after her mess but still loves her big sister as Planeptune's CPU candidate.

### NOIRE – Black Heart

Noire is the closest CPU friend of Neptune and is the CPU of Lastation, Land of Black Regality. Noire is considered as the ideal goddess due to her hardworking nature though she always shoulder the burden by herself and refuses help most of the time, which made the others refer to her as a tsundere. Her sister Uni also does not want to lose to her big sister and secretly tries hard to surpass her.



### VERT – Green Heart

Vert is the CPU of Leanbox, Land of Green Pastures. She acts very mature and takes the role of the overall big sister of the group, though she does not have an actual sister unlike the other CPUs. It is also known to many that Vert is an avid gamer who is constantly plagued by her video game backlogs resulting with her rarely being seen outside her room.

### DENGEEKIKO

Dengekiko is a Game Reporter along with her rival Famitsu. She has a very casual personality and is also loyal to her duties. Her moves are based from Dengeki Bunko characters such as Misaka Mikoto's Railgun and Kirito's Starburst Stream.



### FAMITSU

Famitsu is the other Game Reporter the appears with Dengekiko. She seems to be a soft natured individual that is very mindful of others. She first displayed the same rivalry spirit as Dengekiko but both of them later decided to work together towards the same goal.



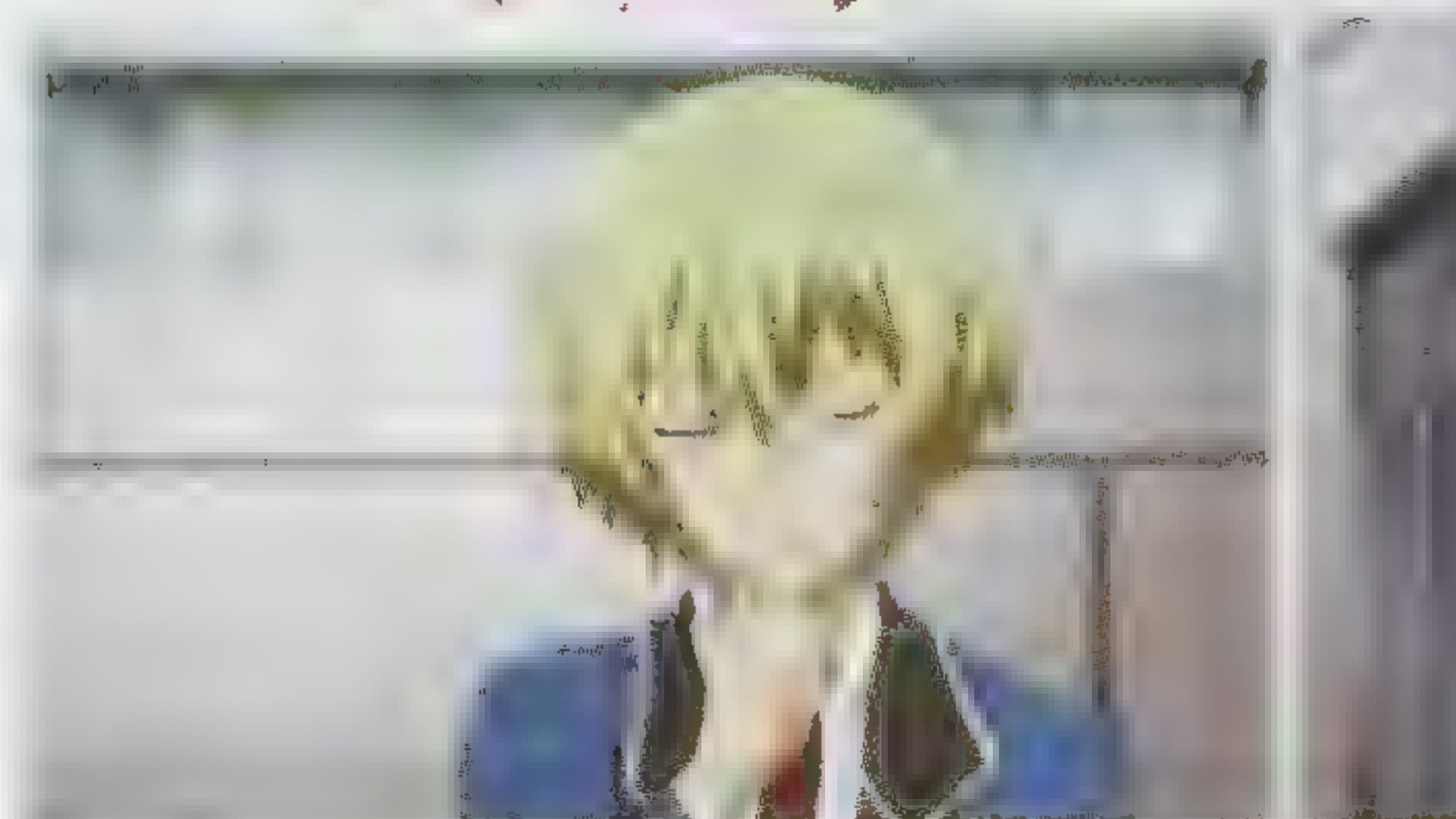


# A GIRL'S REAL LIFE SURVIVAL GAME!

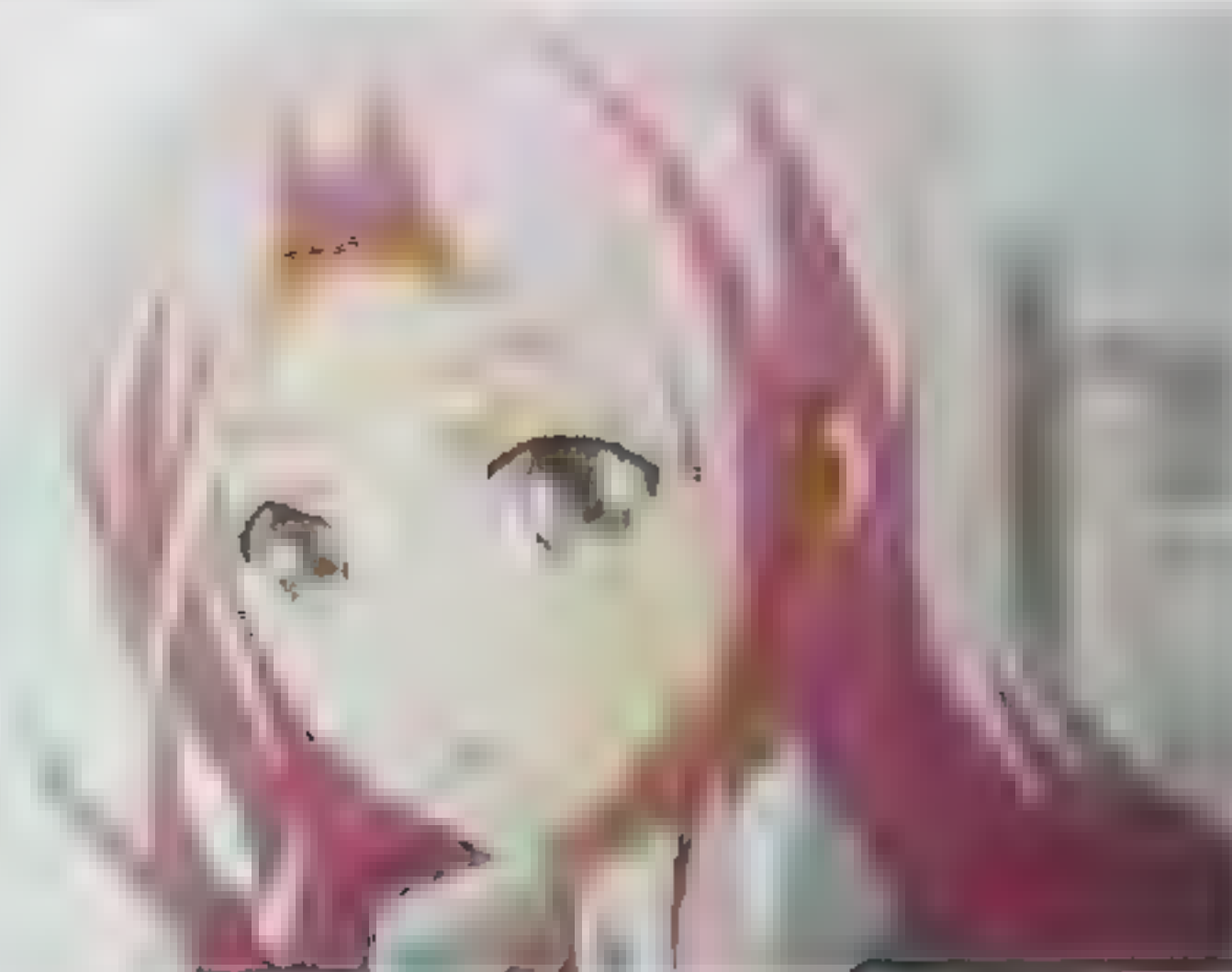
written by: Kahlua



Having a very strong sense of justice often brings you to even more unacceptable situations. Just like Tachibana Hotaru, the Student Council President of her high school, who met the two most unbelievable people she could ever become close to.



When Hotaru moved in her new apartment, she found out that her neighbor was an indecent man who talks about lewd things casually in the hallway. Little did she know that after making a mess of learning this neighbor was the host he detests because of her friend, this man named Matsuoka Masamune, thinking she is a boy, would later force her to join his three-man team in a survival game together with his best friend and a hentai manga artist Yukimura Toru.

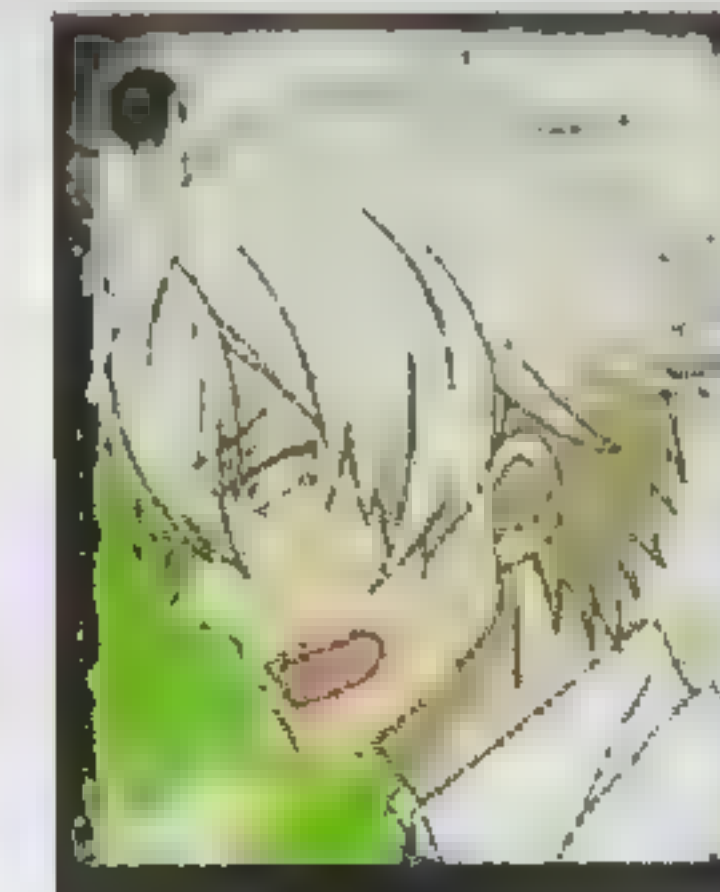


Aoharu x Kikanjuu (Blue Spring X Machine Gun) is an anime adaptation of the ongoing manga written by Naoe and seven volumes has been currently published by Square Enix. Produced by Brain's Base and directed by Hideaki Nakano, this series started airing last July 2, 2015 and a total of five episodes have been released. The anime is also licensed by AnimeLab in Australia and in North America by Sentai Filmworks.

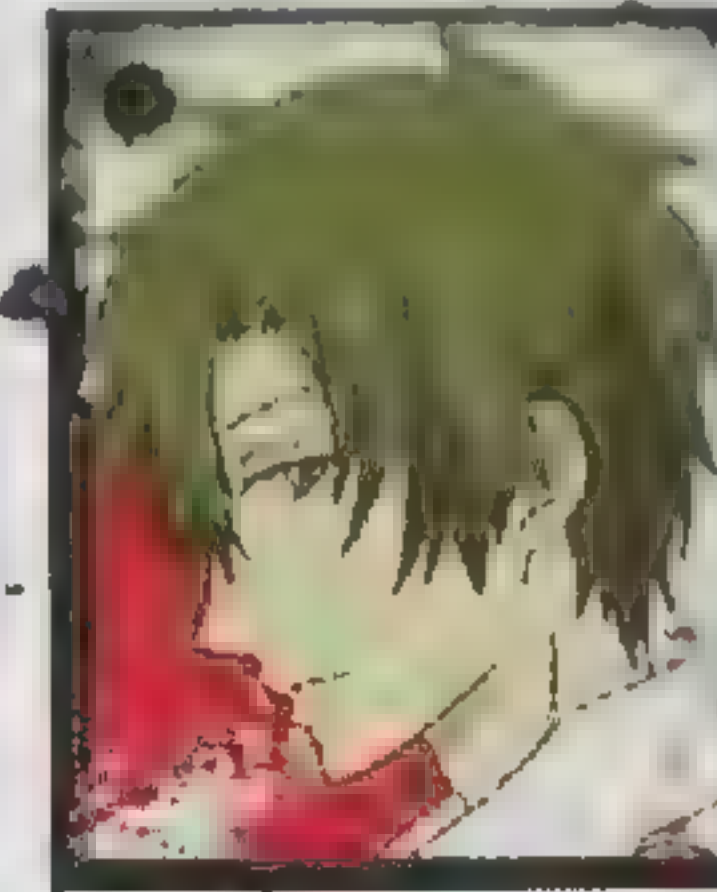
## CHARACTERS:



Hotaru Tachibana



Takatora Fujimoto

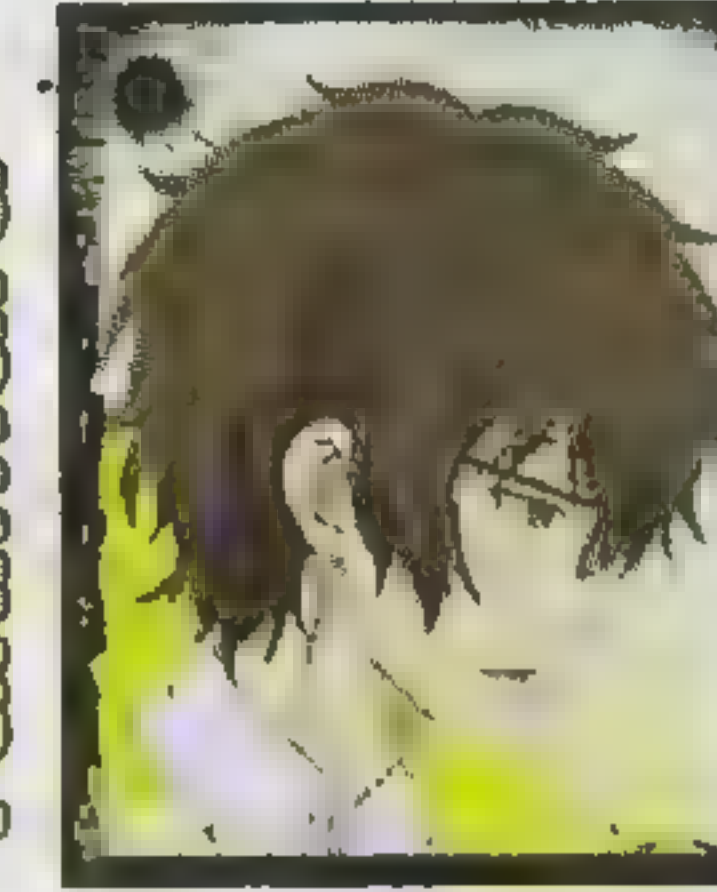


Nagamasa Midori

Masamune Matsuoka



Toru Yukimura

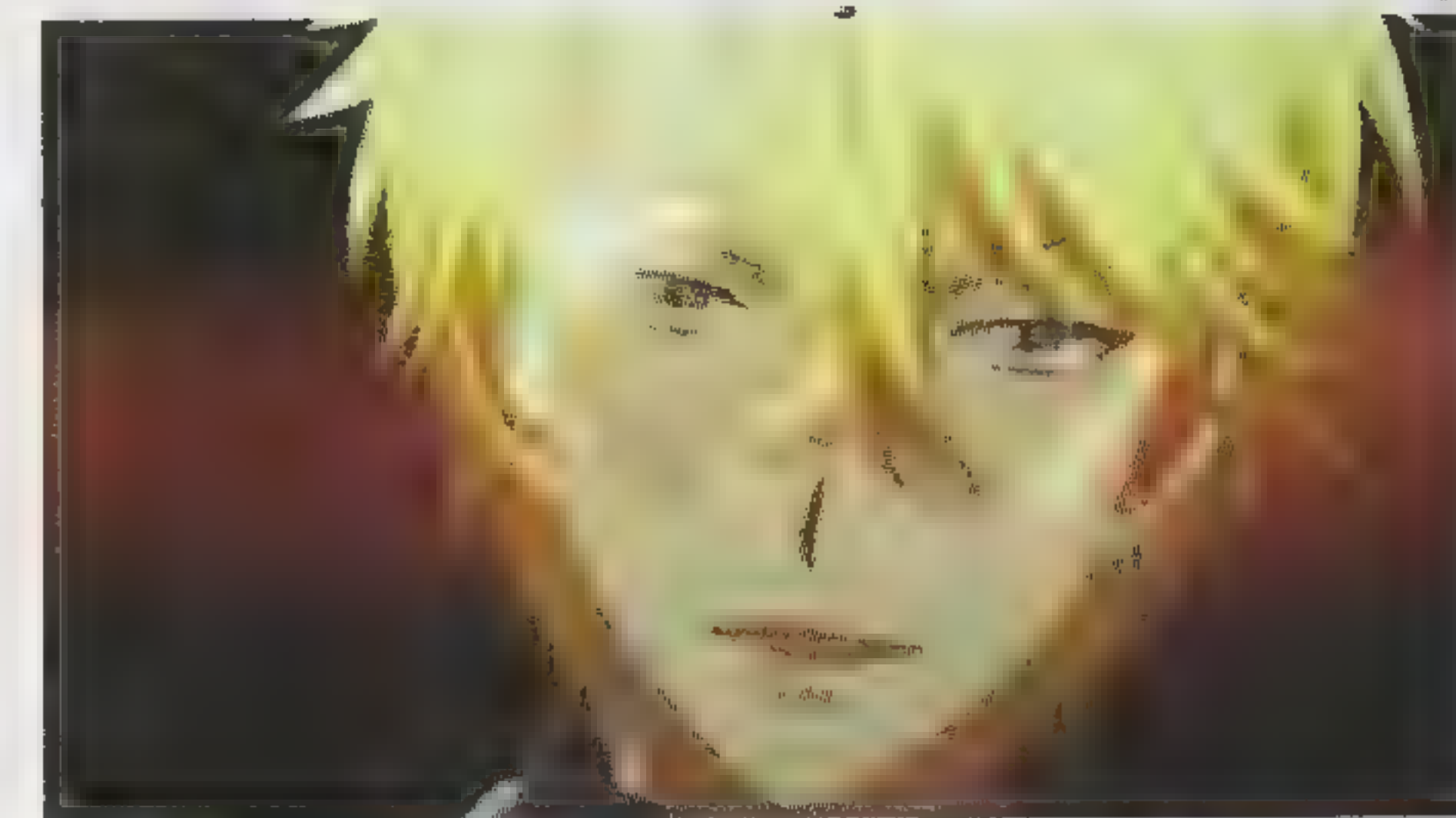


Ichii Akabane

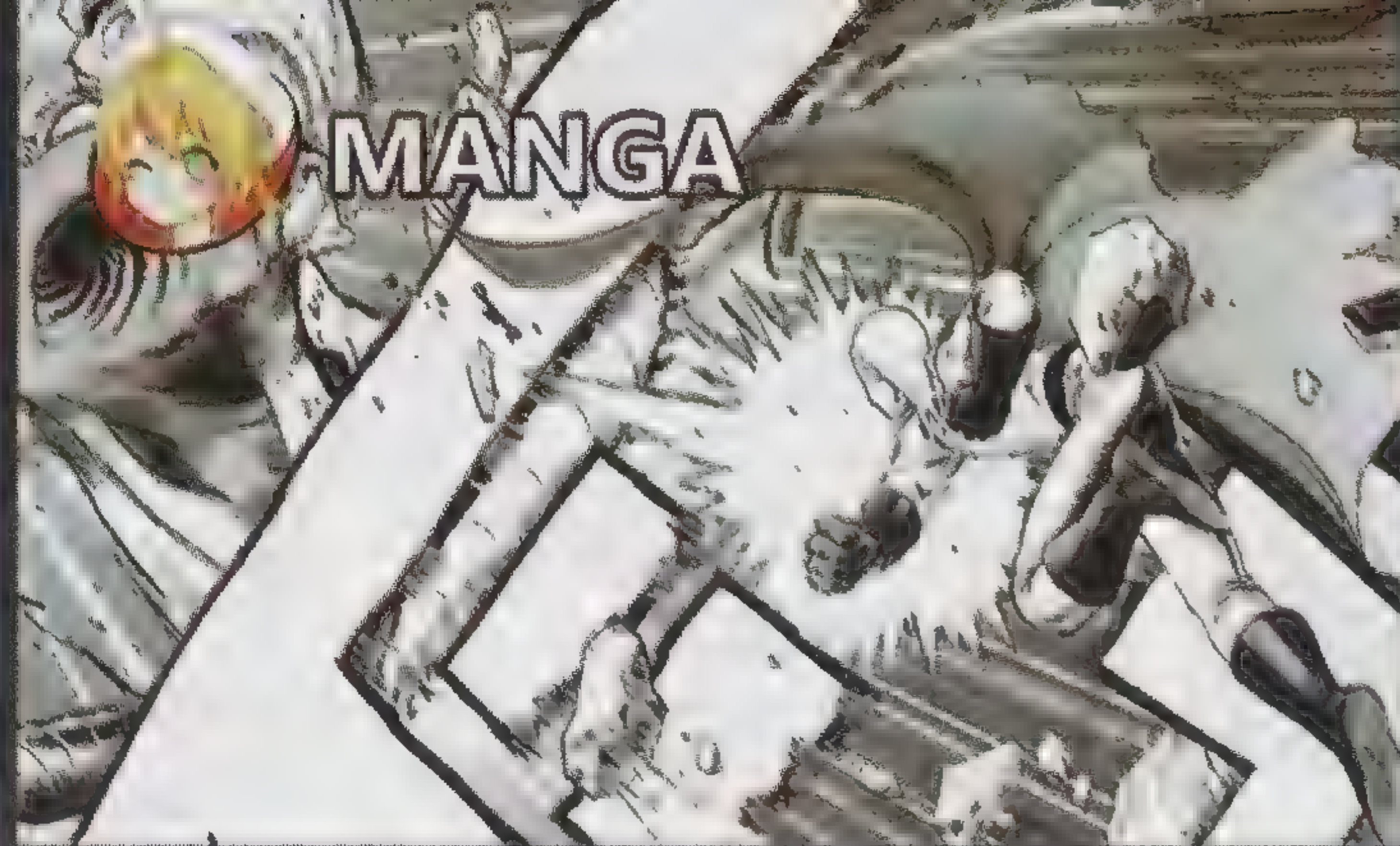


For a good start, the art of the anime is good and will already catch a group of viewers. Moreover, the action scenes inserted are also great and very exciting. The story, however, is a bit unsteady in the beginning. Looking at it, there are a lot of different paths where the story may lead to, and they are all in sorts of direction that it is difficult to pass through all of them smoothly. Nevertheless, its comedic aura best suits a time for light story viewing and will not bore you into watching it.

One a popular handsome host in a club and the other an introvert hentai mangaka messing with a girl whose blood boils for decency and righteousness. How will things turn out?







MANGA



01

## No Second Strike is Needed ONE PUNCH-MAN

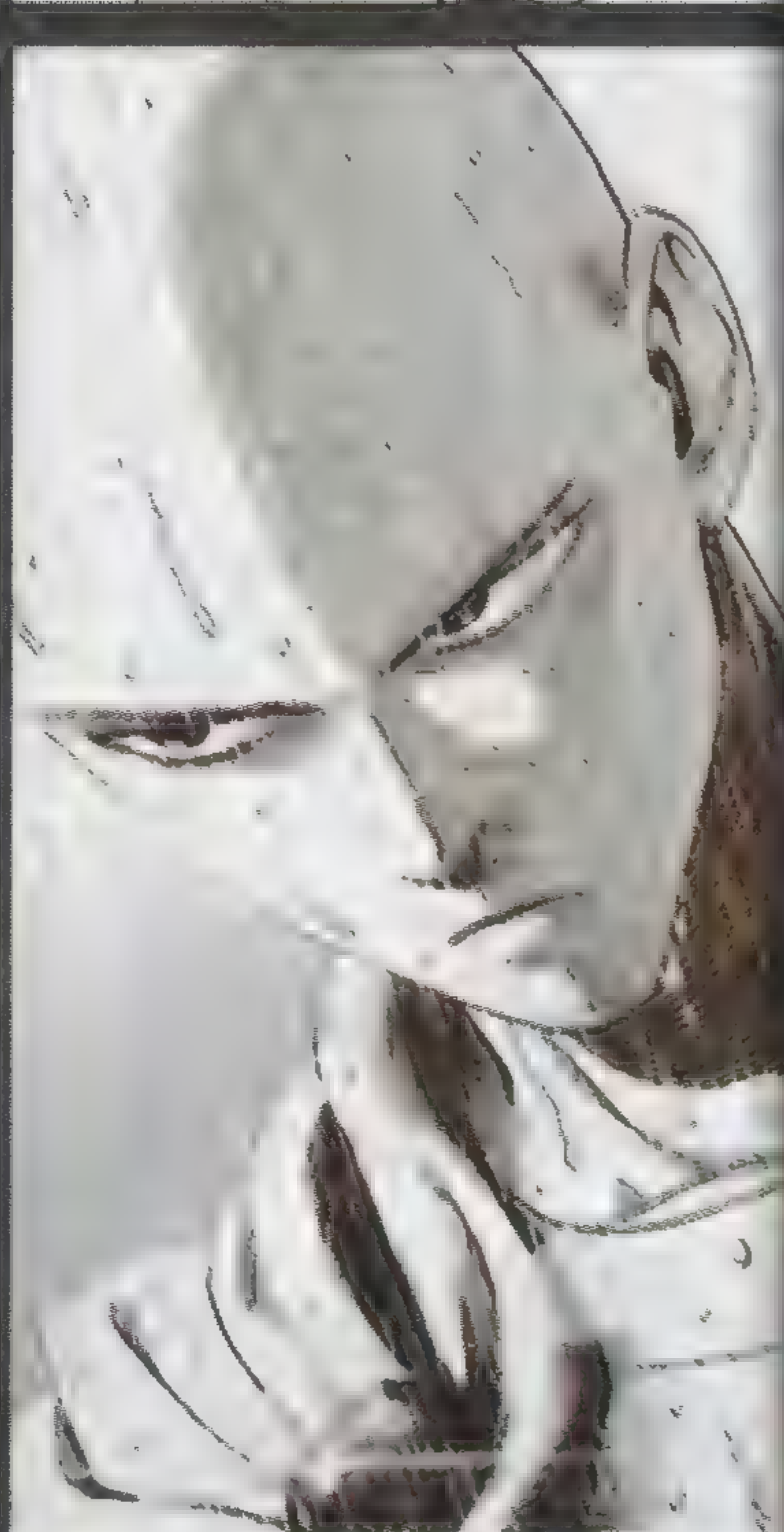
By Mikelle Abubo

Though the world is constantly being plagued by gigantic monsters, esoteric creatures and other strange villains; there's still hope since there exists a certain strong individual that can protect us all. Except this hero is not just strong, he's too strong.

At first glance, Saitama looks quite average with his normal physique, bald head and easily distinguishable lifeless expression. Do not let all that sway you though; truth of the matter is his looks are the only thing average about him. Saitama is actually a very powerful super hero that has the capability to defeat any villain or monster that threatens the earth with just one punch.

**One Punch Man** is an ongoing manga illustrated by Yusuke Murata which began publication in Shueisha's **Young Jump Web Comics** website back in 2012. The series was originally adapted from a webcomic that went viral which surpassed 55 million hits which was made and uploaded by an artist who uses the username **ONE**. The official digital manga remake will also be adapted into an anime series that will premiere in the Fall 2015 Season.

This action-comedy manga is one of the highly acclaimed series as of now. One Punch Man was nominated for the **7th Manga Taishou Awards**. The manga boasts great art quality and a very unique story outline that is very interesting to follow. It's quite obvious but the running gag of the series is that a last boss-like enemy appears to wreak havoc only to be thwarted by Saitama with only one punch. This manga is definitely for those fans of large scale action and gag manga. Follow Saitama as he saves the world, one punch at a time.



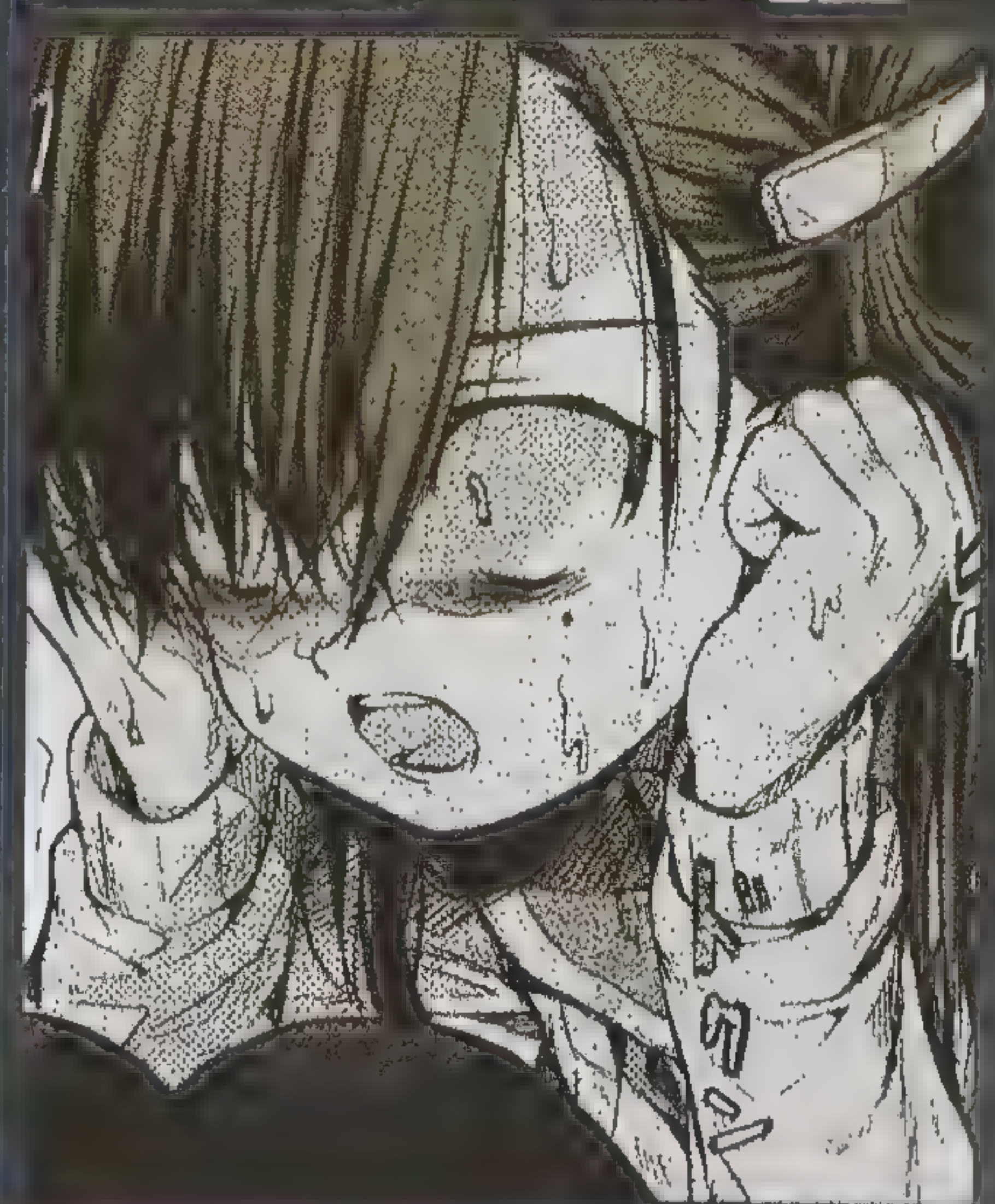
## School is the Place to Be GAKKOU GURASHI

By Mikelle Abubo

School is a place to study and learn; a place to meet new acquaintances, discover friendship and form bonds; it is a place that nurtures students so that they can arm themselves once they enter adulthood and survive in our society. Little do these younglings know that they would literally be arming themselves in order to survive in their god-forsaken world.

Takeya Yuki, Ebisuzawa Kurumi and Wakasa Yuuri were normal students who attend a normal school within a normal city. All things were hunky-dory and each one of them were living a very peaceful school life, until that fateful day. Nothing was out of the ordinary, except that there was some strange news about accidents which occurred near their campus. The school day was almost over and nothing notable happened, but then things went awry as if everything was just an illusion. People suddenly began to indiscriminately attack each other, and those who got bit turns into mindless ghouls; it was like a never-ending cycle of carnage. Since then, the three heroines were forced live and barricade themselves within their school in order to survive. Their fates entwined as they formed the **School Life Club**.

**Gakkou Gurashi** is a manga series written by Norimitsu Kaihou from Nitroplus, drawn by Satoru Chiba and is being serialized in **Manga Time Kirara Forward** magazine. The title has already been licensed in English by **Yen Press** due to its rising popularity.



Gakkou Gurashi is definitely one of those stories that would make you do a spit take and would force you to say: "Well that escalated quickly", in a very good and amusing way. Many would think at first that this manga is full schoolgirl cuteness with your typical moe art style, but you shouldn't let this façade fool you since that's just the tip of the iceberg. As you read on, things will suddenly become quite odd and would make you recheck what genre of manga you are reading.

An anime adaptation premiered with the Summer 2015 Season lineup which was handled by Lerche studio. Fans of survival and zombie apocalypse genre would definitely not regret picking up this series so be sure to check out Gakkou Gurashi.



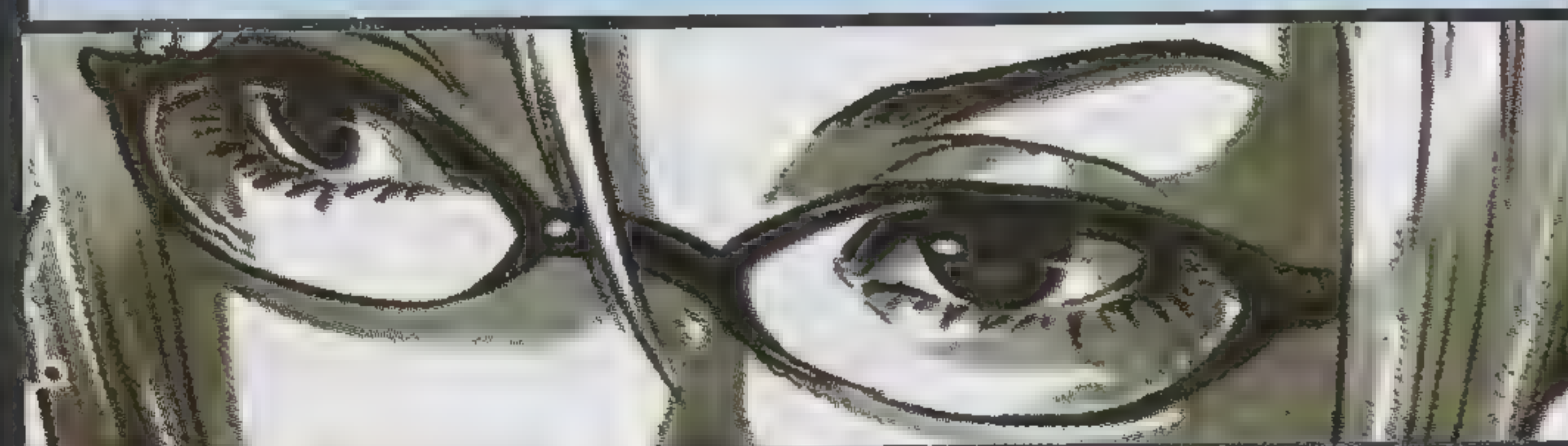
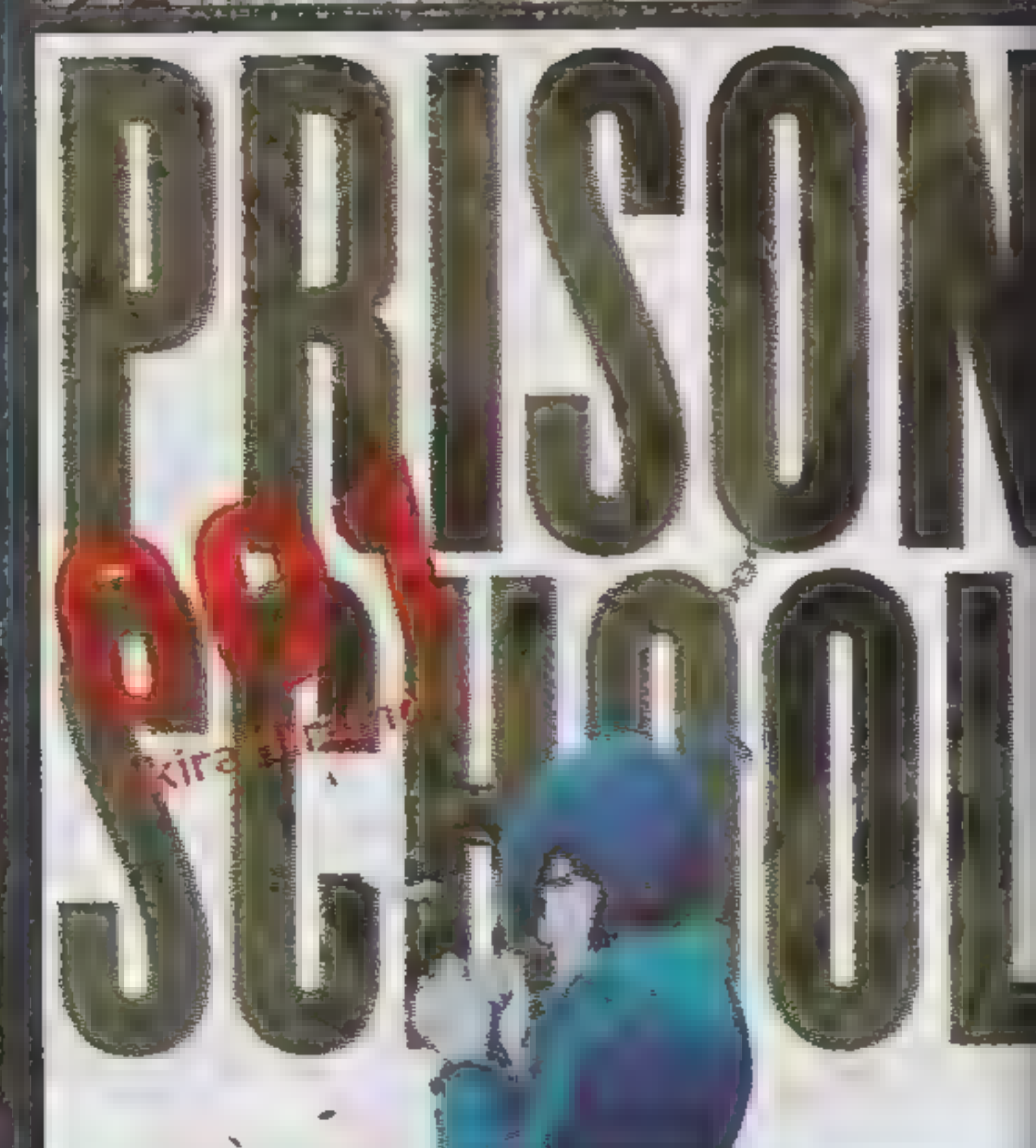
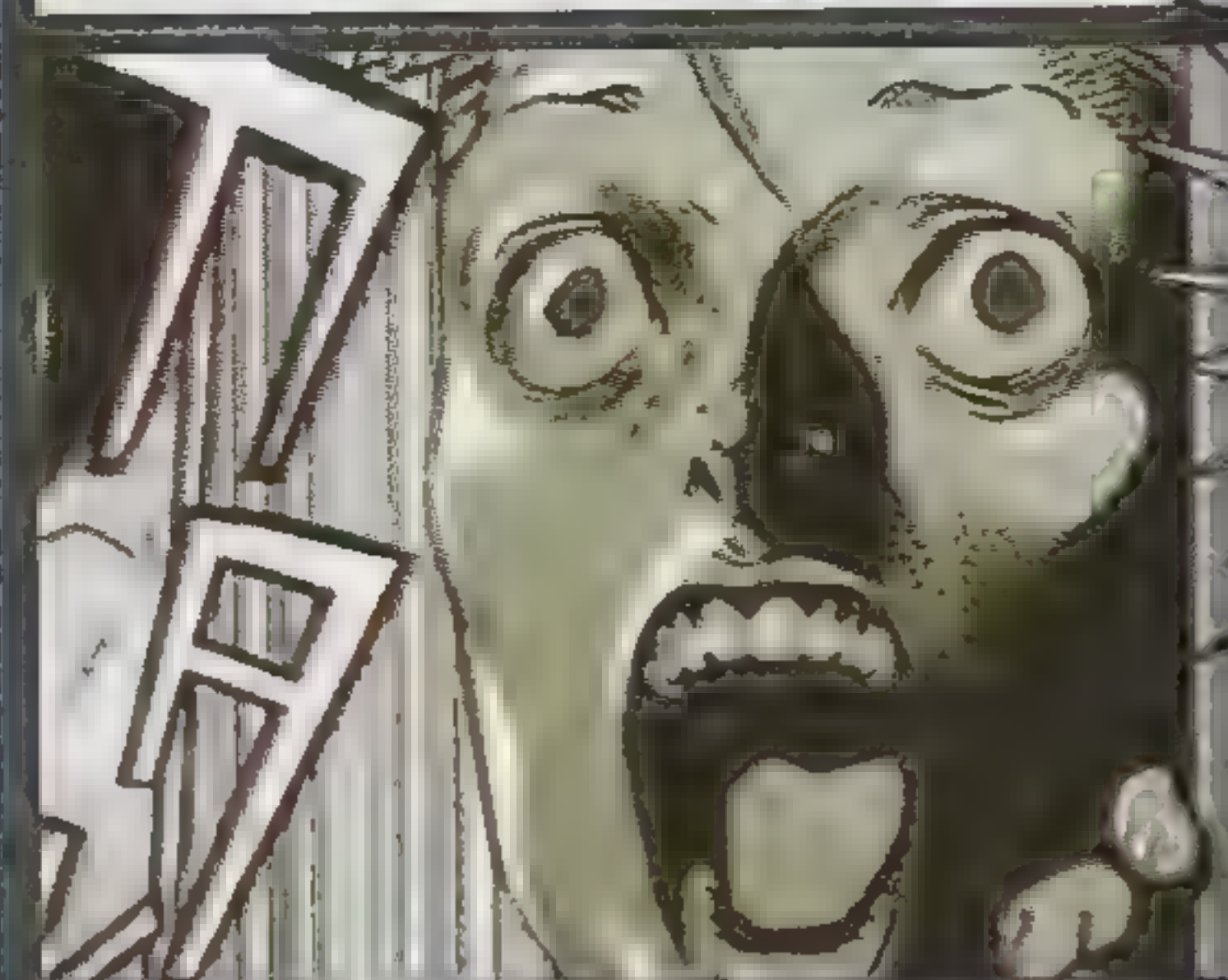
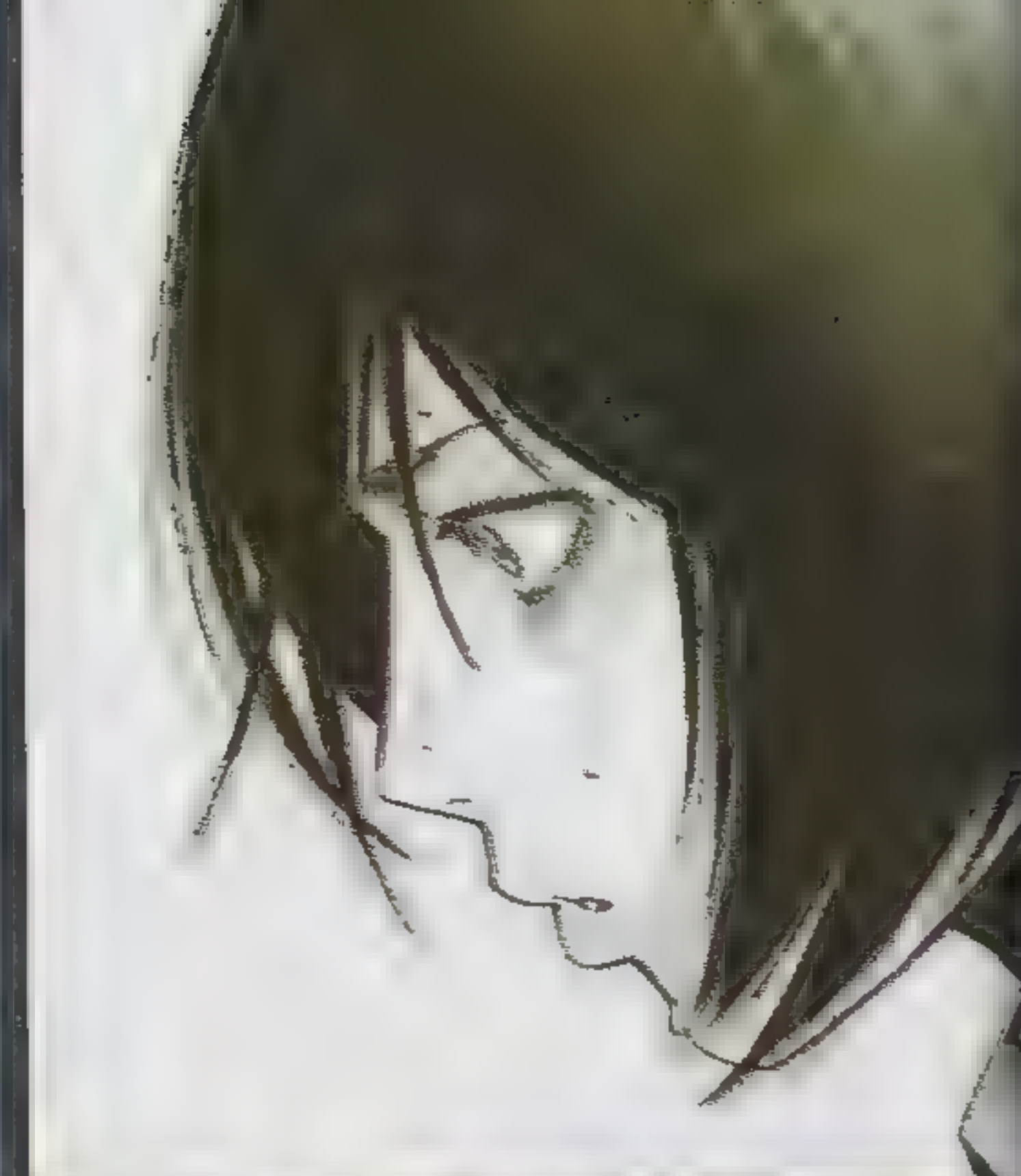
## The Boys in the Striped Uniforms

# PRISON SCHOOL

by: lizac 3.0

The ratio of male and female students at **Hachimitsu Academy** is 1 to 200. This may sound like heaven for most boys as they will definitely be surrounded by pretty girls. But for **Kiyoshi, Gakuto, Shingo, Joe, and Andre**, the only male students who are enrolled in this academy, it only means desolation and pure misery. Some girls hate them by default while some are indifferent to them. Since the academy has only become co-ed recently, the girls are not comfortable with other people in their territory. The boys also lack the courage to talk to the female students, and luck doesn't seem to go their way. As they say, what's the point when you don't have what it takes?

Despite the absence of competition among male students over the gorgeous ladies, this is more of a disadvantage than an advantage. Thus, in a desperate attempt to check out the girls even more up-close, they plan a peeping session one night through Kiyoshi's mobile phone when the girls take a bath at the dorm shower room. With one mishap after the other, the gods have played against them and they get caught by the **Underground Student Council**. They are a group of female students who punish the lawbreakers in Hachimitsu. The poor boys were given two choices: stay for one month in prison school or get expelled. With the council's sadistic tactics to discipline them, will the boys actually repent or rebel?



Prison School is an ongoing seinen manga written and illustrated by **Akira Hiramoto** in February 2011, and published under **Weekly Young Magazine**. It is one of the winners of **Best General Manga Award** in the 37th **Kodansha Manga Award** in 2013. It has also been produced as an anime and started airing July this year. Prisoner School, although of comedy genre, is very graphic and some chapters may not be suitable for the faint-hearted. Since the Underground Student Council employs violent ways to punish the boys, the readers will have to get used to blood in every chapter. There are also instances where the characters' sadomasochistic tendencies are on display. The pacing is fast and breathtaking, so there is no dull moment and the interaction among characters always means something. Still, it is of no doubt a funny manga because the boys (except Kiyoshi) are rather pathetically happy to receive punishment from the pretty members of Underground Student Council.

Prison School is a place of sweet torture; Kiyoshi and his friends wouldn't mind having company. Join them in their (mis)adventures and learn more truths about Hachimitsu Academy.

## Good Morning, Darling!

# MONSTER MUSUME

by: lizac 3.0

Governments all over the world are often suspected of hiding things from its citizens to prevent widespread panic. Much is true in the case of the **Monster Musume** universe, where the Japanese government hid the truth behind the existence of mythical creatures for many years. But now that they have introduced the creatures to people, a bill called **"Interspecies Cultural Exchange Act"** has been passed to induce healthy interaction between people and the humanoids. These "liminals" as they are called, are mostly centaurs, lamias, and harpies sent to Japan for a meaningful cultural exchange. They need to have a host family who is willing to take them in and teach them the ways of humans. However, they have to follow the most basic rule in this bill, which is to not hurt humans. Accordingly, humans particularly the host family should not hurt these creatures as well.

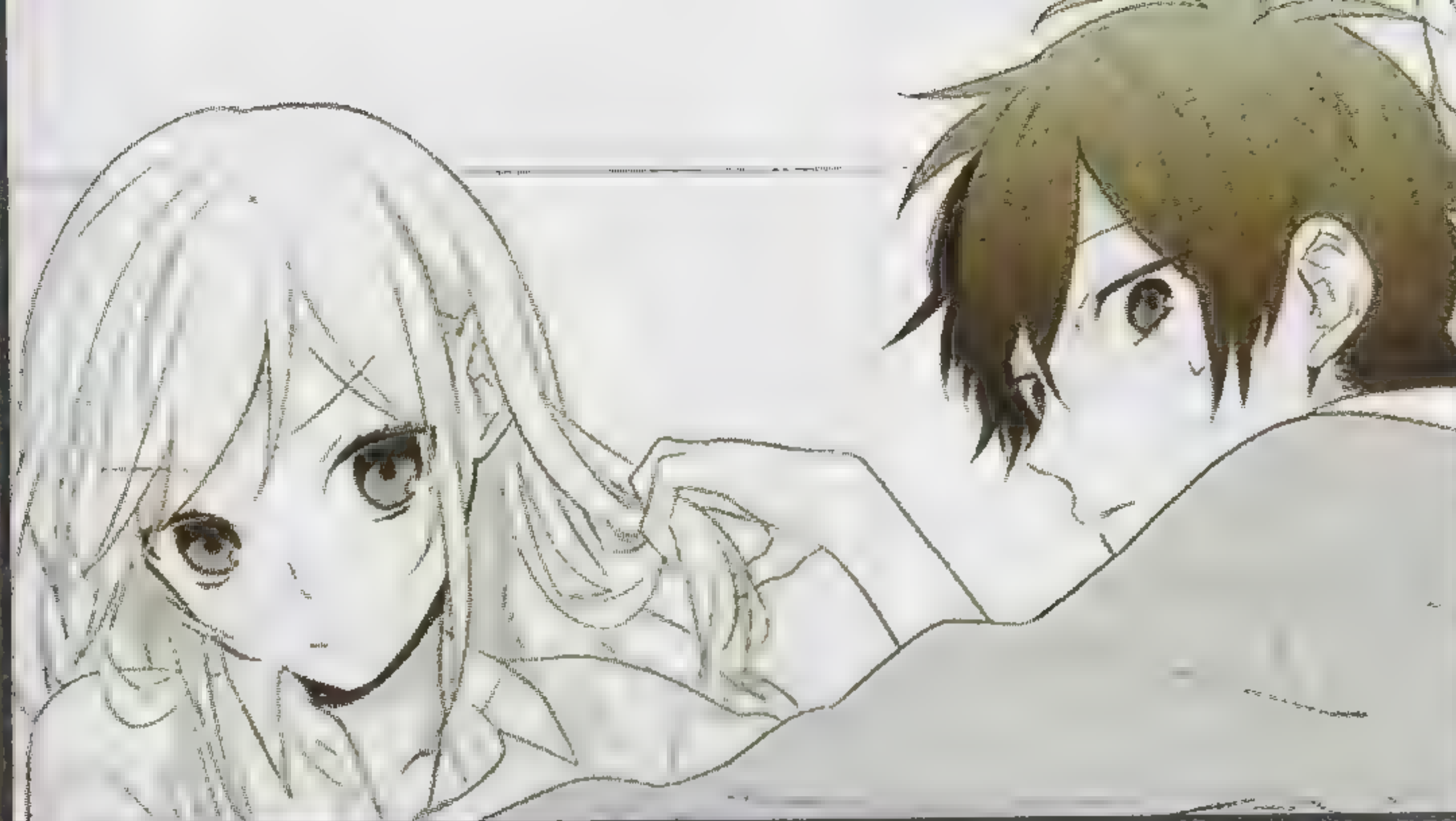
**Kimihiro** is an average student and part-timer who never wished to participate in the exchange program. But he suddenly has his hands full when **Miia** was sent to his house by the program coordinator, **Ms. Smith**. Miia is a lamia and a very clingy liminal. She calls Kimihiro "darling" and always suggests doing lewd things with him, albeit at a very innocent way. It is almost endearing, but a physical relationship between liminals and humans is strictly prohibited as they will be sent back to their country. Kimihiro manages more liminals as time passes by and they get more aggressive toward him and against each other because of jealousy. How will he handle his one mess of a household? And will he be able to control his sexual urges as the beautiful liminals make their advances on him?



**Monster Musume** is a seinen manga written and illustrated by **Okayado** and published by **Tokuma Shoten** in the magazine **Monthly Comic Ryuu**. The mangaka remains to be anonymous, but the manga is already well-known, having one million copies sold by September 2014 alone. It is also included in New York Times Manga Best Sellers List. The harem element is present in this manga, and the way the girls fight over Kimihiro is hilarious. Nudity is prevalent in every chapter that it's almost borderline hentai, but since being unabashed is a trait shared by most of the liminals, going naked even in public is not an issue. The character design is very detailed especially the bodies of the liminals. Their upper bodies are that of humans, but the lower half of their bodies is based on mythical creatures. The mangaka did an amazing job to accurately draw details on the scales and centaur bodies in every volume of the manga.

While **Monster Musume** is not for everyone to read because of its rather lustful content, it is a funny manga that would appeal to the hearts of many because of the self-sacrificing protagonist and charming liminals.





## Sweet Connection Built by Secrets

### HORIMIYA

By Elaine

We all have a side of us that we don't want others to see. But sometimes, no matter how hard we try to hide it, we still get exposed by the most unexpected person.

Though she looks like your average high school girl, **Hori Kyouko** is a completely different person at home. Taking care of her little brother and doing all the chores in place of her busy mother, Kyouko is the total housewife of the Hori household. However, she never wanted anyone to know about this part of her, until one fateful day, **Miyamura Izumi** found her out accidentally... and vice versa. Miyamura is Hori's classmate who she thought is the weird, shady, otaku type due to his glasses and long hair. But that same moment Hori learned the real Miyamura that no one knows about. After discovering each other's secret, they were able to share a part of their lives and became closer to each other.

Written by **Hero** and illustrated by **Hagiwara Daisuke**, Horimiya is an ongoing spin-off manga of Hori-san to Miyamura-kun by same author published by **Square Enix** in **GFantasy Magazine** since October 18, 2011. A total of seven volumes has been published in Japan and also currently translated in English and released by Yen Press. Reading a number of romance manga would give you the conventional appearance of its male protagonist: the pretty boy type. In Horimiya, however, Miyamura's looks is the complete opposite of that image. This is what separates Horimiya from other romance stories, and probably a reason why it's labeled as shounen. This said, the story displays a boy-girl relationship that is not as juicy as that of a shoujo which ironically increases its points of interest for romance fans.

Find out about the strong, funny twist of a girl liking a non-archetypal, differently handsome boy!



## Love and be Loved

### LOVE SO LIFE

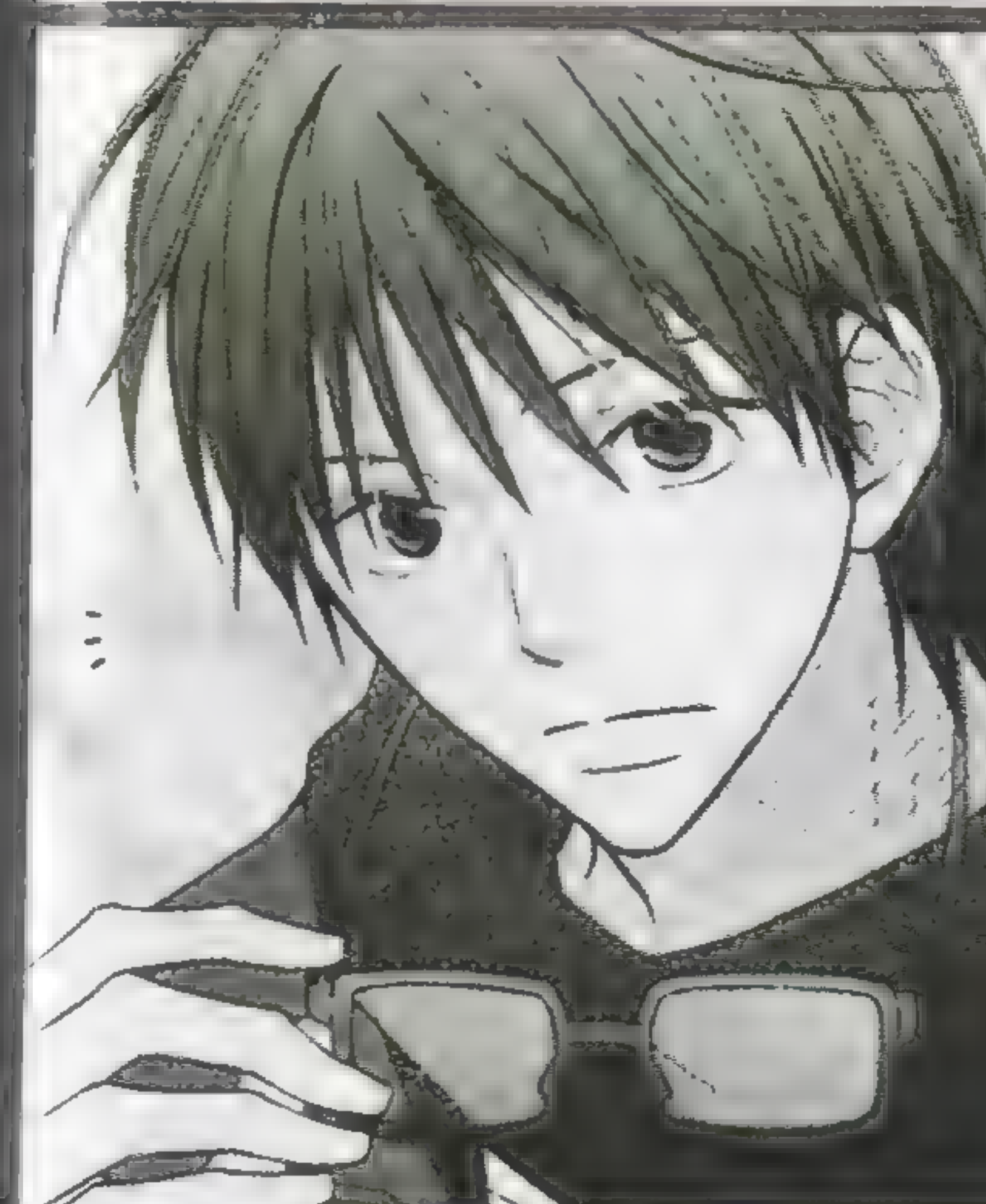
By Elaine

A father who strongly supports the family,  
A mother who lovingly takes care of her husband  
and their children,  
Siblings who often quarrels with each other, yet,  
though discreet, love is undeniable.

Having a family is one of the best things we can treasure in this world. Even when sometimes it seems so messed up, belonging in a family at a place called home is fortunately a given for most people, but not to all.

**Makamura Shiharu** lost both her parents since she was young: her father long before she was born, and her mother when she was five. Since then, she was living in an orphanage, but despite her circumstances, she grew up as a strong and responsible high school girl who loves to take care of kids. She even dreams of establishing her own day care center. For future expenses, therefore, she works in a day care center where she met **Matsunaga Seiji**, a famous newscaster who is also the uncle of a young twin brother and sister. Appraised for her amazing way of taking care of the kids, Shiharu received an offer by Matsunaga of twice her salary at the day care in exchange of becoming the twin's babysitter. She gladly accepted this new part time job in order to fulfill her dreams and now, while loving the cute kids more, she slowly falls in another kind of love with Matsunaga.

Love So Life is an ongoing shoujo manga series by **Kouichi Kaede** published by **Hakusensha** in **Hana to Yume** magazine. Since the pilot chapter on March 2008, there are currently 16 volumes that were released.



Shoujo manga may be initially aimed for young girls, but this story may also be extended for older readers as it also touches some difficult family issues. It is not the typical "high school love" that we commonly see in shoujo; thus, making it more unique and interesting to read. The love development between the two is slow but sweet, just right for the taste of light romance. For those who searches for a story that is romantic, happy and humorous but mature in a way,

Love So Life matches every description. How will Shiharu and Seiji find each other's love in between their responsibilities?

## LOVE SO LIFE

こうち楓

1







# REFRESHING QUALITY

by Kahlua

For true gamers, it is only natural to become aware of the origin of their favorite games because somehow, knowing its developers gives you another picture and angle of the game.

Buko Studios is one of the well-established team of game developers which originated in our country. It is a design studio, offering a suite of services for the development of games and entertainment media. Their group is reliable from being an offsite supporting team up to creating a complete product from ground up.

Founded by a partnership of UK and Filipino cultures, Buko Studios mainly produce graphics and codes for game consoles, computers and mobile devices, and even contributing hugely with some of the console games in the casual games space like Sony Eyetoy and Microsoft Game Studios. They claim their craftsmanship as of refreshing quality, probably because of the term Buko in their name which means a 'young coconut', a fruit usually served as a refreshing drink in hot sunny days.

Buko Studios has participated in E-Sports and Gaming Summit (ESGS) last year, launching their game, Fizz + Hummer is a game about Fizz and Hummer, a cartoon duo blasting their way through a vibrant fast paced action shoot'em up.

This year, they will introduce a whole collection of Shmup Arcade Games. SHMUP is "shoot-em-up" where you play in the third person view, shooting everything on screen. Sounds fun? Last year, they gave away shirts to the top scorer. We wonder what they will have in store for gamers this time. You should start practicing playing some shmup games before ESGS on October 24 and 25 at the SMX Convention Center Manila, Pasay City.

The games they create can be found as browser or mobile games which are available either in App Store or Google Play. Some of their known creations are Red Shift, Hyper Drift, Human Delivery Service, Swords of Edo, Jungle Pang, Pocket Land, Heroes Quest, and many more! The games are all varied in a lot of aspects and any person will surely find at least one game that suits their taste. Graphics and designs of the games are of very good quality, which is very important for people to keep playing them and not tire out.

# MY FAVORITE WEBSITE IS...

by James

What's your favorite website on the internet? I don't know. I know Nico Tuason's though; it's nicotuason.com. You should check it out. Who knows? It might become your favorite website too. So, what kind of website is it, you ask. After all, you shouldn't go to one without knowing what it's for. And I assure you, nicotuason.com is not only safe, but also a fun game website.

Yes, you read that right – it's a game website. But before you head on down, it's best that you get to know first the man behind the games: Nico Tuason, a game developer. That means he's a graphic artist, programmer, user experience designer, storyteller, level designer, audio editor, writer, and a 3D modeler. He's also a procrastinator. And of course, all the games in the site, most of which are strategy games, are his creations.

As of now, there are six games to choose from.

- **Alpha CQB** – a real-time top-down squad-based strategy game where you give orders to soldiers, each of which are equipped with a different firearm. Positioning and line of fire is important, so it's up to you to position your troops right.
- **Spiral Drive** – a strategy game for touch-screen gadgets, especially tablets, where you command fleets of ships. The objective is to capture the enemy's shipyards.
- **Desert Moon** – Nico's first game to be released. In this game, you are tasked to ensure the survival of engineers for five days. Careful planning of defenses and creativity with weaponry is the name of the game.
- **Solarmax** – a fast-paced real-time strategy game where the goal is to colonize worlds, build ships, lay waste to enemy fleet, and discover alien space stations. This game is for the smart, brave, and bold, as the game rewards quick thinking and aggressive maneuvers.
- **Solarmax 2** – both a spiritual successor and an actual sequel to Solarmax, the game features improved graphics.
- **Spatial** – have fun with spaceship strategies as you listen to the Blue Danube Waltz in this short game.

So, interested in Nico's games? You should be. They're intuitive, intelligent, enjoyable, total eye candies, and affordable. So, now that you've read all there is to know about nicotuason.com, you should be going online. Now.







by james



## Stick It To The System

Advances in science and technology have allowed computers to become smaller and smaller as the years go by. From library-sized CPUs to super-thin laptops and smartphones, it seems as if computing can't get any smaller. Intel, however, begs to differ, as the company was able to make a CPU the size of a USB flash drive. Plug in and play with this fresh new piece of technology: the **Intel Compute Stick**.

With the Intel Compute Stick, any device that features an HDMI input can become a personal computer. And because of its size and ease of use, there are so many things you can do with it! Bring it anywhere with you, turn anybody's TV - with their permission, of course - to a fully-functional PC and play games, browse the internet, and make important documents in it, making it extremely helpful in emergency situations.

The Intel Compute Stick comes in two kinds of operating systems, the Windows 8.1 version, which comes with a free Windows 10 update upon the OS's release, and Ubuntu; each of which comes with its own specifications. The Windows 8.1 version comes with 2GB RAM and 32GB memory space, while the Ubuntu version comes with 1GB RAM and 8GB memory space. Both versions come with an Intel Atom processor and HD graphics, an integrated wireless connection and Bluetooth connection, one USB 2.0 port, and a microSD card slot.

With the power of a smartphone, the size of a flash drive, and the capabilities of a PC, the Intel Compute Stick is the perfect device that if you're always on the go or have no space for a laptop or PC but is in need of one. Indeed, the Intel Compute Stick is a perfect fit for your pocket, budget, and lifestyle.

The Shinkansen (Japanese bullet train system) is both a widely-used means of transportation and Japan. What makes it the usual choice among commuters, especially those who travel long distances on a regular basis, is its ability to travel in breakneck speeds without compromising the safety of its passengers. Even though the Japanese railway system already achieved one of the fastest train speeds in history, is about to become even faster with its newest innovation in train technology: the **maglev train**.

Maglev, which stands for *magnetic levitation*, is a relatively recent technology in transportation that is usually applied in railways. The vehicle, which is usually a train, hovers a few centimeters above the track due to a strong electromagnet that causes magnetic levitation, and is propelled through the track by a series of magnets. The lift generated by the magnet greatly reduces the friction of the train with the track. Less friction means less drag, and less drag means a lot more speed - around more than half a thousand kilometers per hour.

## Faster than a Speeding Bullet Train



It is Taiwan that is the first country to create the first-ever commercially operational maglev train, which is also currently the fastest railway system in operation. When it comes to speed, Japan's Lo Series train, which is still in its testing phase, has already left Taiwan's maglev train eating the dust when it comes to sheer speed, as it was able to reach up to 600 kilometers per hour, covering 1.8 kilometers in just a matter of eleven seconds.

However, despite the experimental train's impressive feat, it's going to take more than a decade before passengers can experience breakneck speeds in complete safety, as the great cost of building such an infrastructure will push the project's completion all the way to 2027. Said operation, which is slated to connect Tokyo and Nagoya, will be running at a top speed of 500km/h, spanning the distance within forty minutes. And by 2045 it is projected to link Tokyo and Osaka and is expected to travel one city to another in a span of an hour and seven minutes, halving the usual travel time of the present-day Shinkansen.

The Shinkansen has become an important and amazing part of both the media and everyday life of the Japanese for more than half a century, making it one of the many present-day symbols of the ever-fascinating land of the rising sun. With the maglev train, the already super-cool and super-fast railway system that every Japanophile wants to ride is about to become more super in every way.



# O-KUN TALES NEKO IS LIFE



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# #THROWBACK



## CRUSH GEAR CRUSH GEAR CRUSH GEAR

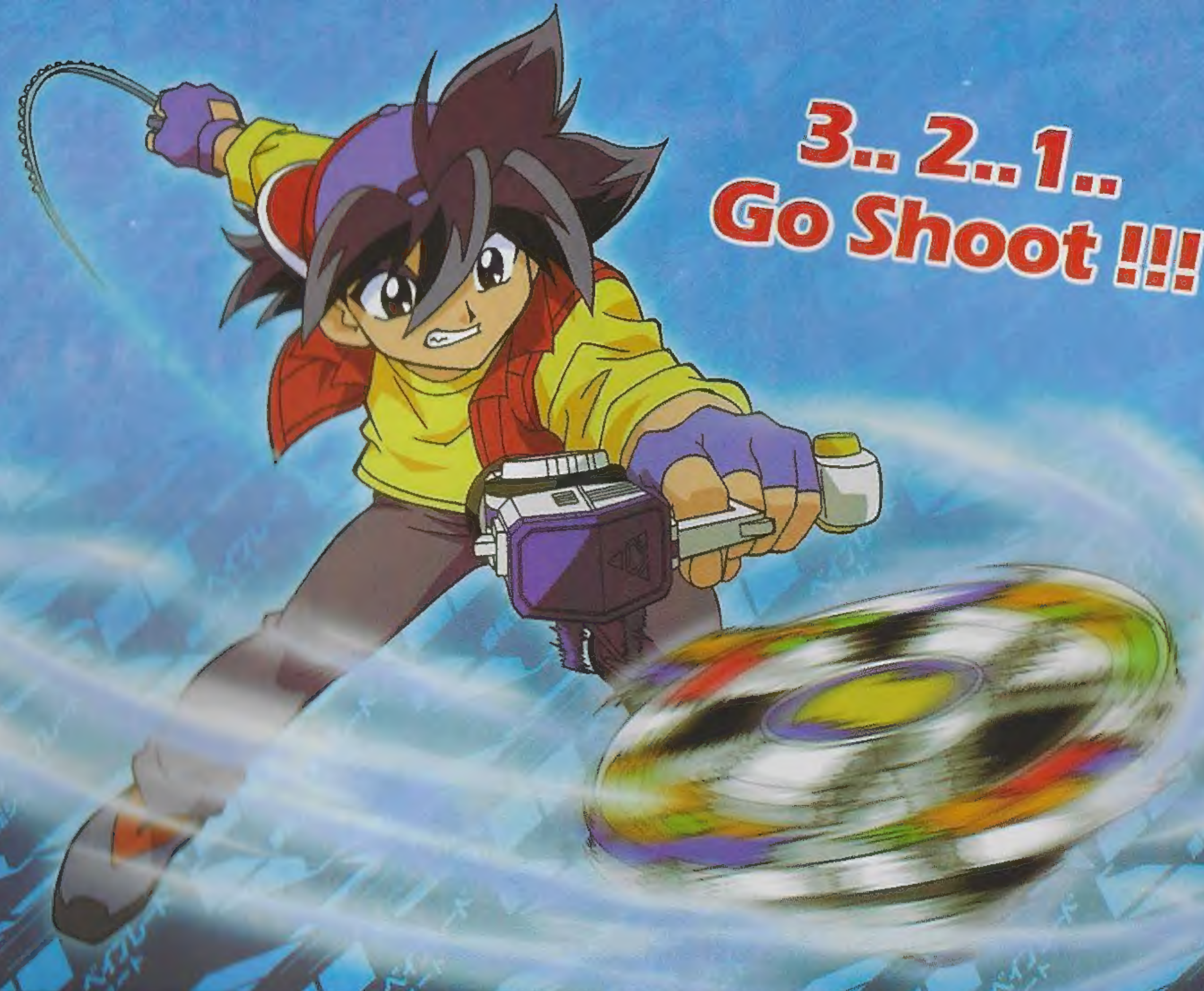


In every boy's childhood memories lies his love of playing with his favorite toy cars, and for some cool people, not just any other toy car, but a Crash Gear! Kids of early 2000 cannot deny their knowledge of these once very famous toys, and admit it, if you are one of those kids, you definitely wished to own at least one model of Crash Gear.

Back in 2003, ABS CBN and Studio 23 aired Crash Gear Turbo with tagalog dubs. It is then that people got interested with the cars that looked so cool and badass in CGT. Popularity boosted when real toy cars inspired by the anime has been produced and sold to different stores nationwide that hardcore fans then tried to make their own tournaments out of their bought Crash Gears.

Crash Gears are battery operated, and tournaments out of them are not the typical car racing. It is actually a one on one fight of the two cars where they continuously collide with each other in a mini walled stage. The winner will be the first one to immobilize the other. Boys love it most 'cause ain't it like an exciting robot fight but with cars instead? Hitting two birds with one stone!

Now did this make you miss your old Crash Gear? How about catching some game right now?



## BEYBLADE BEYBLADE BEYBLADE BEYBLADE

Another toy that brought fun and entertainment during childhood: Beyblade. Remember those colorful spinning tops that every kid is playing wherever you go? Most kids even have more than 1 beyblade; they even have toolbox where all their beyblades are stored. They even customize their own beyblades so that it will stronger and durable during battles. Do you also remember the winder that if it's long, the better; your beyblade will last the match longer?

In the year 2003, Beyblade has become a hit here in the Philippines. Not only the toy itself but also anime series entitled: "Explosive Shoot Beyblade" that was directed by Toshifumi Kawase. The story revolves around Takao Kinomiya who enters the Japan Regional Beyblade Qualifying Tournament and from there, he will meet new people named Max Mizuhara, Rei Kon and Kai Hiwatari which will eventually become his friends teammates and together they will compete with other beyblade competitors around the world.

Every Beyblade has different functions and kinds but they have on thing in common; they brought joy and fun during our childhood that we would never forget. Some of us even managed to gain new friends because of it.







## The Hype Was Real (Tamiya)

written by James

Let's & Go! Before you correct me, young one, let me tell that I got it right; you can even Google it as proof. Try it, and tell me what you'll find. Two brash-looking kids and their cool miniature motorized race cars, right? Yep. Back in the day, that anime and the merchandise it inspired, which became more popular than the anime that inspired it, was all the rage. The kids – us many years ago – racing our Tamiya in whatever smooth surfaces we can find, be it the pavement or the track. It was fun and exhilarating – wait, let's save the nostalgia for later; let me tell you what made this hobby of ours so memorably fun.

There's the anime that started it the giant battle toy merchandise: Let's & Go. It's about Jet and Joey, two young hot-blooded boys who just want to race their Let's-Go cars – superpowered motorized toy race cars. Together they challenge both friends and prospective friends alike. With Jet using Vanguard and Joey with Magnum, you can indeed feel the power of friendship and love for one's toys in the show – a theme that transcended to the real world, with many kids carrying their "Tamiya" wherever they may go.

Mind you, Tamiya is the plastic model brand that officially made Let's&Go, not the name of the franchise. However, due to some strange reason, it was called as such. But of course, that's not important; what matters is that circa 2001-2002,

children, mostly boys and some girls, brought their Tamiya, created in the same image as those found in the show.

They're no simple toy cars – they have to be assembled; chassis, which came in different configurations, with each having their own advantages; gears and shafts that needed to be regularly oiled in order to keep the toy functional; different kinds of motors that have differing speeds; wheels, bumpers, and rollers that allowed the toy to move along the contours of the track; and last but not least, the cover that gave the toy look like those found in the show. Because of its many fragile parts, it had to be constantly taken care of, it was quite difficult to build and maintain, but it also gave the toy more sentimental value. And because of their great customizability and the advantages of different configurations, it's quite hard to find two identical Tamiya cars from different owners, with each one car having a personal touch from its owner. The intricacy and variability also led to people, especially kids, discussing all things Tamiya, turning everyone into junior car mechanics.

But of course, everything ends, and the hype is already in the past. But don't despair; you can either experience it for yourself or relive it once again! A lot of hobby shops still sell Tamiya Let's&Go cars; maybe you can buy one and tell your friends to do so as well. Who knows? Maybe we'd all start racing again.

## WHAT ADVENTURE AWAITS?



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